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G-2 Report

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF  
U.S. ARMY

4-1 2001-186  
6700

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Military Training and Campaign  
Procedure

(a) Combat Training

MANEUVERS OF THE ARGENTINE ARMY (1933)

The Minister of War has designated the period 20th October - 15th November, this year, for the final exercises and division maneuvers. These are the first maneuvers since 1929.

The first division, under the command of General Nicolas Accame, will hold its maneuvers in the vicinity of the Capital and in Campo Mayo.

The second division under the command of General Camilo Idoate will maneuver in Campo Mayo and the surrounding country; The second brigade of cavalry will execute its exercises separately, making distant reconnaissances in the direction of Zarate.

The third division and the third cavalry brigade under the command of General Benedicto Rufo, will hold its preliminary exercises in the vicinity of Villaguay. The zone in which this division will work later on is in the neighborhood of Estancia San Antonio between Mocoreta and the Uruguay River.

The fourth division, under General Juan R. Jones, will not combine for maneuvers, but will hold its final exercises by groups, one in Cordoba, another in Rio Cuarto and a third in La Rioja.

The fourth cavalry brigade will operate in two units, one in the vicinity of San Luis, the other in Mendoza.

The mountain detachment "Cuyo" will hold its maneuvers in the mountain district in the vicinity of Puente del Inca near Mendoza.

The fifth division under the command of General Luis A. Cassinelli will hold division maneuvers in the vicinity of its headquarters, Campo Belgrano in Salta.

The mountain detachment of the "North" will work in the neighborhood of Tilcara and the surrounding country.

All units will return to their proper stations by the 15th of November, when the mustering out of the conscripts will take place shortly thereafter.

Tactical exercises for the purposes of exercising command had been completed in the first and third divisions; those of the second, fourth and fifth divisions, cavalry brigades and mountain detachments must

From M.A. Argentina Report No. 4738 August 25, 1933.

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Subject: Military Training and Campaign  
Procedure

(e) Combat Training

be completed before the end of the month of August.  
These exercises correspond more or less to our command  
post exercises.

Refresher courses for field officers of  
arms will be held between the first of October and the  
fifteenth of November in Campo Mayo in the various branch  
schools.

Artillery officers taking special refresher  
courses this year will be sent to Concordia where there  
is sufficient terrain for maneuvers and firing.

Engineers will proceed to San Nicolas de  
los Arroyos, the engineer school, where they will work  
with the 1st and 2nd Battalions of Engineers.

*Frederick S. Sharp*

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 4738

August 25, 1933

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G-2 Report

ARGENTINA ( Combat )

Subject: Military Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures

BUDGET - MINISTRY OF WAR - 1934.

Department, School, etc.	Salaries	Other Expen- ses	Totals
Officers (Pay and Allowances)	23,690,700.-		23,690,700.-
Enlisted (Pay and Allowances)	16,015,560.-		16,015,560.-
Minister of War and Offices	50,100.-	49,200.-	99,300.-
Inspector General's Department	110,400.-	18,900.-	129,300.-
General Staff	60,000.-	132,876.-	192,876.-
Adjutant General (Personnel)	202,980.-	15,060.-	218,040.-
Quartermaster Dept. (Administration)	1,831,880.-	15,426,670.-	17,258,550.-
Ordinance Dept.	4,535,536.-	1,681,500.-	6,217,036.-
Chief of Engineers	40,560.-	363,400.-	403,960.-
Military map reproduction plant	601,740.-	363,540.-	965,286.-
Chief of Signal Corps	265,320.-	161,418.-	426,738.-
Chief of Target Practice & Gymnasium	104,340.-	140,374.-	244,714.-
Surgeon General's Dept.	168,600.-	433,330.-	601,930.-
Central Military Hospital	308,460.-	68,647.-	377,107.-
(Chief of Air Corps)	642,720.-	825,400.-	1,468,120.-
Aerotechnical Dept.	1,402,440.-	999,500.-	2,401,940.-
Remount Dept.	68,400.-	85,993.-	154,393.-
Uniform Factory	105,600.-	-	105,600.-
Five Divisions of the Army	183,000.-	302,537.-	485,537.-
Judge Advocate General's Dept.	2,700.-	3,240.-	5,940.-
Expenses Military Courts	17,280.-	8,640.-	25,920.-
War College	83,280.-	28,854.-	112,134.-
Superior Technical School	122,700.-	7,160.-	129,860.-
Military Academy	408,300.-	63,000.-	471,300.-
Non-Commissioned Officers School	2,400.-	18,000.-	20,400.-
Cavalry School	-	8,000.-	8,000.-
Artillery School	5,760.-	35,682.-	41,442.-
Infantry "	7,800.-	22,705.-	30,505.-
Signal Corps School	34,560.-	21,660.-	56,220.-
Gymnasium and fencing School	-	6,000.-	6,000.-
TOTAL	51,123,116.-	21,291,292.-	72,414,408.-

Note: (1) Aviation Budget is 5.3% of total military budget.  
Military Budget is 9% of total Federal Budget.

*Fredrickson*  
From M.A. Argentina  
*Capt KMA*

Report No. 4855 March 13, 1934.

OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF  
MEX. INTL. DIV.

6-1 APR 18 2001-188 1934  
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ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Military Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures

BUDGET - MINISTRY OF MARINE - 1934.

<u>Department</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Other expen- ses</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Officers (Pay and Allowances)	8,608,304.-		8,608,304.-
Enlisted men (Pay and Allowances)	14,211,712.-		14,211,712.-
Maintenance of Equipment and Personnel		3,420,000.-	3,420,000.-
Personnel civil	6,375,384.-	-	6,375,384.-
Expenses of operation of fleet		4,632,000.-	
(x) Repairs of material		3,971,600.-	
General expenses		1,139,352.-	9,742,952.-
General Maritime Police	4,228,320.-	1,743,240.-	5,971,560.-
Hydrographic service, lighthouses, etc.	522,780.-	420,890.-	943,670.-
Commercial service of Nat. Transports	232,812.-	165,500.-	398,312.-
Naval Asylum		35,060.-	35,060.-
Total	34,194,232.-	15,527,642.-	49,721,874.-

(x) Naval Aviation 826,000.-

Note: Aviation Budget is 1% of total naval budget  
Navy Budget is 6% of total federal budget.

*Frederick Sharp*  
From M.A. Argentina  
*Capt GS MA*

Report No. 4855 March 13, 1934.



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NOV 2001-189 1934  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
6700

ARGENTINA (Cont.)

Subject: Military Training and Campaign  
Procedure.

(a) Combat Training. 1001 33 1934

ARGENTINE ARMY MANEUVERS

The first and second divisions began their concentration on October 17th at Campo Mayo near the federal capital.

The 5th, 6th and 7th Infantry, commanded by Lieut. Colonels Juan A. Bartagaray, Francisco Cobos and Eduardo Larronde, are proceeding by marching from Bahia Blanca, Mercedes and La Plata respectively.

The troops will be rested during October 18th, and will hold their annual exercises and maneuvers between October 19th and November 10th. On November 15th all troops will be returned to their respective garrisons, after which time the conscripts will be furloughed to the reserve.

The first maneuvers will be by battalion group and squadron at war strength. After the commanders have acquired sufficient practice in exercise of command, then regimental (war strength) maneuvers will be held; Available lieutenant colonels will be alternated and rotated first as regimental commanders, then later will be detailed as umpires, or as assistant directors of exercises.

The first division commanded by Brigadier General Nicolás Accame will consist of the first and second infantry, and the first field artillery.

The second division commanded by Brigadier General Camilo Ideate will consist of the fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth infantry; the second cavalry, and the second and sixth field artillery, the second engineer battalion (pontons) and the second signal company.

The third division, commanded by Brigadier-General Julio C. Costa, will concentrate in Campo de Puchulu, department of Villaguay, province of Entre Rios. This division will consist of the ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth infantry, third cavalry, the third field artillery, the third engineer battalion (pontons) and the third signal company.

The fourth division, commanded by Brigadier-General Juan R. Jones, will concentrate at Rio Santa Rosa, Rio Segundo, and Cumbre de Achala. This division will have available for its exercises the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth infantry, fourth field artillery, the fourth engineers and the fourth signal company.

The fifth division, commanded by Brigadier-General L.A. Cassinelli will be concentrated in the

From M.A. Argentina Report No. 4988 October 18, 1934.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

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(a) Combat Training.

vicinity of Campo General, Belgrano, Salta City, Province of Salta. The following units will be available to the 5th division for these maneuvers: The seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth infantry, the fifth field artillery, fifth cavalry, mountain detachment "Norte" consisting of the twentieth mountain infantry, second group of mountain artillery and the section of mountain guides.

The second and third cavalry brigades will join forces and concentrate in the neighborhood of Cambal ranch, S. Agustín ranch and Río Mirifay (near Campo Mayo). The second brigade, commanded by Colonel B. Menendez, will be the eighth and tenth cavalry and the second group of horse artillery, while the third brigade, commanded by Colonel A. Rawson, will consist of the sixth, ninth and eleventh cavalry and the third group of horse artillery.

The fourth brigade, commanded by Colonel A. Guinazu, will operate in the proximity of Valle del Aguanda and Río Tunuyán, Mendoza. The first, fourth, and seventh cavalry and the fourth group of horse artillery will form this brigade.

The mountain detachment "Cuyo", commanded by Colonel E. J. Farrell, will be concentrated in the foothills of the Andes, west of the city of Mendoza instead of in the vicinity of Puente del Inca in the high mountains, due to the fact that there still exists too much heavy snow, which would hamper these maneuvers. This detachment consists of the sixteenth mountain infantry, first group mountain artillery, mountain guides section "Cuyo."

The fifth engineers (pontoons) commanded by Lieutenant Colonel N. Iaprida Villanueva, will hold its maneuvers near the Río Dulce, Santiago del Estero.

The aviation will be divided and assigned by squadron to the various unit commands in the division concentration areas.

The total personnel taking part in the final exercises will be in the neighborhood of 17,000 troops and 803 asimilados; 11,707 horses and mules, and 997 vehicles.

The Military Attaché has been invited to attend the maneuvers to be held at Campo Mayo of the 1st and second divisions, and will report the results.

*Frederick S. Shop*  
From M.A. Argentina  
*Capr G5MA*

Report No. 4988    October 18, 1934.

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ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers

This subject is discussed in Report No. 5109 under Index 6200 (a).

The Argentine is probably as theoretically well trained as any in South America. A great theorist but a poor practitioner. There is no way to compare Argentine to United States officer personnel.

There is one lieut. general; three major generals; 18 brigadier generals; 69 colonels; 139 lieut. colonels; 231 majors; 331 captains; 331 first lieutenants; 414 lieutenants and 360 sub-lieutenants; 6 colonels Medical Corps, 2 colonels Judge Advocate General's Dept; 3 colonels Quartermaster and 1 colonel Chaplains Corps; 9 lieut. colonels Medical Corps; 5 lieut. colonels J.A.G.; 4 lieut. colonels Q.M.; 28 majors M.C.; 1 major pharmacist; 3 majors Vet. Corps; 5 majors J.A.G.; 13 majors Q.M.; 3 majors Chaplains Corps; 1 major, Master of the Sword; 33 captains M.C.; 2 captains Dent. Corps; 6 captains P.C.; 6 captains Vet. Corps; 3 captains J.A.G.; 30 captains Q.M.; 9 captains C.A.C.; 3 captains Master of Sword; 1 captain Band Master; 46 1st lieutenants M.C.; 6 1st lieutenants D.C.; 15 1st lieutenants P.C.; 7 1st lieutenants V.C.; 62 1st lieutenants Q.M.; 1 1st lieutenant M.of S.; 7 1st lieutenants Band Masters; 5 lieutenants D.C.; 13 lieutenants P.C.; 15 lieutenants V.C.; 64 lieutenants Q.M.; 5 lieutenants B.M.; 7 sub-lieutenants D.C.; 21 sub-lieutenants P.C.; 23 sub-lieutenants V.C.; 63 sub-lieutenants Q.M.; 50 sub-lieutenants M.of S.; 8 sub-lieutenants B.M.; officers in Reserve Corps, all grades, 3275, while Retired Officers amount to 307.

The national military college supplies all the combatant officers, while those of the "asimilado" officers enter from civil life after taking the prescribed course and examination in one of the several schools. Reserve officers are drawn from various sources, for example: cadets of the national military academy honorably discharged, are commissioned reserve sub-lieutenants; Conscripts who are required to serve only 3 months because of their qualification in small arms and who desire to become reserve officers are required to take a special course and examination and are thereupon commissioned reserve sub-lieutenants. Officers retired for length of service in grade automatically become reserve officers.

Promotion

Promotion in Time of Peace - General Regulations.

"Promotion is to be awarded those who having the necessary qualifications are best suited to undertake and successfully carry out the duties of immediately higher rank, with the object of filling vacancies for the greater advantage of the service."

"To merit promotion it is essential to have demonstrated qualities in former rank which may be usefully applied in higher one."

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5110 March 14, 1935.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers.

"Promotion in the troop is by selection among those serving within the regiment or isolated unit. "

"Promotion of officers is made within their respective arm of service according to their position on the list up to and including the grade of colonel, and for other ranks in accordance with the place occupied on the respective register."

"Officers of every rank must serve a minimum of two annual periods of instruction in the command of troops of each grade so that the last year of command shall coincide with the year in which they entered the fraction of the register to be considered for promotion with the exception of officers taking courses at the Superior School of War."

"An officer who, two years after having entered the fraction of the register to be considered for promotion has not commanded troops shall request authorization for same."

"The officer shall not be held responsible when through no fault of his own this condition has not been fulfilled."

"When the Executive has retained officers on active service or temporary inactive service which duties have prevented them from taking command of troops, these officers shall be subjected to practical tests so as to prove as far as possible their ability to command troops."

"Normally the table of officers in each grade is annually renewed as follows: by thirds, in the rank of sub-lieutenant, by fourths in the rank of lieutenants, general of brigade and Major Generals; by fifths in the ranks of 1st lieutenant, Major and Lieutenant Colonel, and by sixths in the grades of captain and colonel."

"The table given below shows the following for each rank: the total number of officers in the standing army; the minimum number of years which must be served in each grade; promotions (which are equal to the vacancies in immediately superior rank) eliminations resulting from discharge for any given cause; vacancies corresponding to the total of promotions and eliminations in each rank ---- the total number of which can only be exceeded when the eliminations by discharge, or retirements during the year are greater than the eliminations foreseen in the table of rank; in each case promotions established by immediately inferior rank shall be increased to the number of extra eliminations in the higher rank, and eliminations by selection in the grade shall be diminished except when vacancies cannot be filled, in which case the second fraction of the register shall be considered and selections made by reason of seniority."

"In the grade of general, eliminations should take place when the age limit has been reached, or else by voluntary

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

## Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers

or administrative retirement, incapacity or discharge; but in case the necessary vacancies have not taken place within the year by reason of any of the above specified causes the oldest generals shall be eliminated so as to produce the required vacancies assigned annually to this grade, and pay corresponding to immediately higher rank is to be awarded the retiring or eliminated general.

GRADES	A C T I V E					:Ys. :for :rota- :tion	P R O M O T I O N			
	:Inf.	Cav.	Art.	Eng.	Tot- al		Inf.	Cav.	Art.	Eng.
Lt.General	:--	--	--	--	3 to 0	: --	--	--	--	--
Major Ge.	:--	--	--	--	6 to 9	: 4 to 5	--	--	--	--
Brig.Gen.	:--	--	--	--	12	: 4	--	--	2	--
Colonel	:24	12	12	6	54	: 6	--	--	3	--
Lt.Colonel	:40	20	20	10	90	: 5	4	2	2	1
Major	:80	40	40	20	180	: 5	8	4	4	2
Captain	:144	72	72	36	324	: 6	16	8	8	4
1st Lieut.	:140	70	70	35	315	: 5	24	12	12	6
Lieutenant	:112	56	56	28	252	: 4	28	14	14	7
Sub-Lt.	: 84	42	42	21	189	: 3	28	14	7	7
Cadet	:28	14	14	7	63	: --	--	--	--	--
(annual egress)										

GRADES	E L I M I N A T I O N				V A C A N C I E S			
	Inf.	Cav.	Art.	Eng.	Inf.	Cav.	Art.	Eng.
Lt.General	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Major Gen.	--	-- 2	--	--	--	-- 2	--	--
Brig.Gen.	--	-- 1	--	--	--	-- 3	--	--
Colonel	--	-- 6	--	--	4	2	2	1
Lt.Colonel	4	2	2	1	8	4	4	2
Major	8	4	4	2	16	8	8	4
Captain	8	4	4	2	24	12	12	6
1st Lt.	4	2	2	1	28	14	14	7
Lieutenant	--	--	--	--	28	14	14	7
Sub-Lt.	--	--	--	--	28	14	14	7
Cadet	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
(annual egress)								

"Conditions or aptitude considered with reference to promotion shall be based principally on military preparation and fitness, the administration and command of troops."

"Conditions for promotion will comprise the following and in order of importance:

1) Moral aptitude and character, the military spirit and conduct necessary to fulfill the duties inherent to the grade and to comply fully with all functions exacted.

From M.A.Argentina

Report No.5110

March 14,1935.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers.

2) Intellectual aptitude and competence.

3) Physical fitness which will render the officer competent to withstand the fatigue inseparable from the performance of his tasks.

"To decide the officers each year to be considered for promotion, the method of procedure is as follows:

a) The number of officers to be included in each fraction of the register to be considered for promotion is determined by dividing the total number of officers in each grade (up to and including that of colonel) by the number of years established for rotation in the grade.

In the rank of generals the same method is followed but each grade (of generals) is taken separately.

If the number of officers on the list could not be exactly divided by the number of years established for rotation, an officer would be added to or subtracted from the list, according to whether the list is in excess or incomplete, but seniority must never be modified.

b) In each list the senior officers shall form the first fraction. Officers should follow by order of seniority, until the number of officers corresponding to each fraction is completed, then a second fraction will be started and so forth.

c) Officers eligible for promotion, but who cannot be promoted for lack of vacancies shall not be eliminated especially when they are more efficient than those promoted.

Officers under this heading shall remain outside the tables of promotion, and the following year they will be considered for promotion with the second fraction of the register which should be taken into account in determining the first fraction of the following year.

d) Officers considered for promotion but who are not promoted with the exception of those comprised in Item c. shall be transferred to the administrative retirement list, and from the rank of lieutenant upward they shall enjoy an increase of 20% on their pensions.

Those who are disqualified because of bad conduct shall not have the 20% increase in pension.

e) Officers who are not retired may request assignment to posts as military or civil employees in the national administration, and the number of years' service given by them in these positions shall be computed until the maximum pension or age limit involving obligatory retirement have been reached."

"Preference for promotion in the different grades shall be taken into account as follows:

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

## Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers.

- a) For subaltern officers, results obtained in the performance of their service duties, command of troops, courses in the superior War School, commissions and other work undertaken.
- b) For captains, results obtained in command of a company, battery or squadron. Their degree of preparation in administration and command of the units, service practice on the General Staff, success achieved in courses at the Superior War Schools in this country and abroad; in other schools for superior training and specialization, also their carrying out of commissions in the service and all other military acts demonstrating efficiency.
- c) For majors and Lt.Colonels, qualities and aptitude for superior command deducted as a consequence of the results obtained in the administration and command of troops, and service practice on the General Staff, special commissions, and in important departments of the Army.
- d) For superior officers, colonels and generals, qualities and aptitude which have been demonstrated for superior command: service, command and government of troops, and success obtained in other functions and commissions of importance.
- e) Only officers who have given evidence of possessing the necessary capacity to conform with success the difficulties and responsibilities of superior command, can arrive at the rank of general, and they must be models and masters to their subalterns.
- f) Officers who have distinguished themselves on service in the general staff shall enjoy equal conditions for preference.

"Officers on the inactive list may not be promoted or those who are under military process of law, or under detention by the civil authorities."

"Under these circumstances an officer possessing all other qualifications for promotion shall not be considered eligible for promotion until the termination of the process or case; and if he should be acquitted or subjected only to slight disciplinary penalty, which in the opinion of the Executive is not sufficient reason to set back the promotion, he shall be promoted on the same date as would have normally been the case. Otherwise, he shall be eliminated."

"The promotion of officers -- with the exceptions clearly defined in Art.79, and item b and c of Art.80, shall be made rank by rank, and only when all the conditions prescribed by the present law have been complied with."

Promotion in Time of War

"In times of war promotions shall be accorded to officers of the Army guided by the same principles as in times of peace with the following variations:

From M.A.Argentina

Report No.5110

March 14,1935.

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(b) Commissioned Officers

- a) To fill vacancies, indispensable when facing the enemy, an officer who has not served the minimum time for promotion may be promoted.
- b) To fill vacancies the most capable sub-officers and sub-lieutenants from 1st. sergeant inclusive upward without passing through the grade immediately following.
- c) For distinguished conduct in action, reported in daily dispatch, any soldier may be promoted without taking into account the time served.
- d) Soldiers who distinguish themselves by some act of heroism may be promoted on the field of battle by the President of the Nation or by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, if the President is not present at the theatre of war, and in this case the commander shall request the confirmation of the promotion in the shortest possible time, setting forth reasons for promotion.

"The Executive shall determine by a decree the date on which the state of war begins and terminates, the zones of operation and units of the troop considered necessary in campaign. For the troops not involved in the conditions set forth above, promotion is to be awarded as in time of peace."

"Promotions in time of war shall be authorized by the recommendation of the chiefs of the regiments, the isolated unit, commanders of forts and detachments approved by the commanders of the larger units."

"When the national troops in campaign are cut off from communication with the Ministry of War or with the respective superior authority, the superior commander of these troops, may accord promotions which are indispensable, as specified by Art. 80. In such cases the superior officer in command shall request the confirmation of the promotions authorized in the briefest possible time, and shall give detailed account of the causes which have brought them about."

"When promotions are authorized by application of the provisions of Art.79 and 83, Item c and d of Art.80, and there are no vacancies, the officers promoted shall not be included in the tables."

"Officers held by the enemy as prisoners of war do not cause vacancies in their grade; but when the service requires it, promotion may be made to substitute them. The time spent as prisoner of war shall be computed as active service with reference to promotion; and promotions may be made when liberty has been regained and conditions set forth by the law have been complied with."



## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned OfficersPromotion List of the Reserve of the Regular Army, Officers and Troop.

"Officers who request discharge from the permanent army, also volunteers and conscripts, are transferred in their respective grades to the reserve of the permanent army, the national or territorial guard, according to age, and they may be promoted at time of transfer, in every case when there is a vacancy, in accordance with the regulations determined upon by the executive."

"The trooper who will eventually take his place in the permanent army shall do so with the same rank as when in the reserve."

"Young men, 20 years of age who have terminated their first six months of obligatory military service, aspire to become officers of the reserve, and who possess the moral and intellectual qualifications necessary shall undertake a special course of training of 90 days' duration. The Executive shall determine each year and in each region, the number of these aspirants to be considered and the conditions for classes and examination to be rendered by each group."

"The aspirants who pass a satisfactory final examination shall be denominated sub-lieutenants of the reserve."

"These sub-lieutenants are obliged to serve during the instruction of their contingent if called upon to do so by the Executive."

"For promotion officers of the reserve must at least have minimum seniority required of officers of the permanent army, and to have served before appointment in each grade at least two periods of instruction for which they may have been called upon and must further be nominated or proposed for promotion."

Transitory Dispositions.

"When the present generals are transferred to the retired list, this shall be done with the rank of Lt.General."

"Besides, officers on active service who have fulfilled conditions for promotion may be retired with immediately superior rank, if they have had more than 35 years' service, without having taken part in a battle, and three times the minimum time exacted for service by Law 4707. Also officers who have had more than 40 years service, without having taken part in a battle, and double the minimum time exacted for promotion by aforesaid law. Officers of the Medical Department and Administration shall enjoy the same privileges if they have complied with the same conditions as officers on active service. Officers who desire retirement may be retired if they have served at least 20 years in the Army, and more than one year in present grade if the reasons for requesting retirement are sufficient in the opinion of the Executive. These

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers

requisites, however, are unnecessary in the case of officers with more than 30 years' service, who may retire at any time."

"Generals to 70 years of age and other officers five years following retirement will form the "Reserve List" of retired officers."

Voluntary Retirement.

"Separation from the Regular Army will be granted to Military persons of all grades when free from enlistment contracts in schools, organizations or Military establishments or by obligation prescribed in chapter on Recruiting. This separation takes the name of "baja" or leave without pay when such retirement is without right to a pension and of retirement when a pension is attached."

"For all officers and soldiers the right to a pension begins with 15 years actual service; However for computing pensions the straight service in campaigns counts double."

"The privilege of leave without pay or retirement is obligatory except in time of war or siege."

Administrative Retirement

"Those officers whatever may be their age and years of service, are obliged to pass to the retired list when they have remained out of active service for two consecutive years, being also applicable to this measure those who now for the past two years have been temporarily or permanently inactive."

"Continued sickness or physical disability will be cause for retirement on recommendation of medical officers in accordance with regulations to be issued by the Executive Power."

"The officer or individual soldier retired or on leave without pay under 45 years of age is part of the Reserves of the Army."

"Civilians having simulated rank, medical officers and persons of the legal department are subject to provisions of Law No.3239 so far as pertains to retirement."

"The following scale gives the procedure from minimum to maximum pension. -

For Officers

Years of service including campaigns with the percentage of pay shown under each:

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers

Years

Actual

Serv.	15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/26/27/28/29/30/31/32/33/34/35
% of	50/52/54/56/58/60/63/66/69/72/75/78/81/84/87/90/92/94/96/98/100

pay

For soldiers

Years of straight service.

Years

Actual

Serv.	15/16/17/18/19/20/21/22/23/24/25/
% of	50/55/60/65/70/75/80/85/90/95/100

Pay

"Salary, in computing pension whatever service may be, means the total which the person in military service receives and comprises besides the pay, without length of service, expenses and other allowances."

"The Bonus for campaigns is figured by counting double time for such service."

Special Cases in computing Pensions.

"For physical disability in line of duty a person in military service goes to the retired list regardless of length of service. If of less than 15 years service, he receives pension of that year."

"If disability is through loss of sight, one arm or one leg, then the person concerned will receive maximum pension."

"Incapacity from wounds received in War or active service, the military person will be retired with pension of next superior grade. Those in this condition may accept in place of retirement, membership in the invalid corps with salary provided in the budget."

Temporary Provisions.

"Officers of all grades although they have not reached the age limit specified in Art.4 of this law, but who have 40 years of computed service and 8 years in the last grade or 35 years computed service and 15 years in the last grade may within 3 months of passage of this law retire with advanced rank of one grade."

"With same period of 3 months, officers having 30 years service counting campaigns, may retire with maximum pension specified in Art.13."

"The decrease in age for retirement begins to count from January 1st 1906."

From MIA.Argentina

Report No.5110

March 14,1935.

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Personnel

(b) Commissioned Officers.

Note: Quotations in this report are taken from Translation of Organic Military Law No.4707. Throughout the quotations, reference is made to various numbered articles. These are as follows:


Art.4 An additional 10% will be added to the salaries of sub-lieutenants of the line and staff departments who have completed three years service in grade and to lieutenants and above who have completed four years.

Art.13 In each grade whatever may be the length of service, officers of the line and staff departments of the regular army will take rank above those in retirement or in the reserve.

Art.79 Any officer who distinguishes himself in action against the enemy, whose command is less than that of the enemy by a third; or who holds or detains forces considerably superior in numbers to his own; or who defends a position up until he has lost a half of his troops; or being the first to open a breach of the enemy line or to be among the first to scale a wall, or take an enemy trench; or who captures a battle flag from the midst of formed troops will be recommended by his commanding officer for promotion.

Art.80  
b,c,d, In time of War: Commanding Generals or Commanding Officers of independent units may recommend for promotion to sub-lieutenants, to 1st sergeants or sergeants, those who distinguish themselves for proficiency, efficiency, moral aptitude and command. Commanding generals who promote on the field of battle must present in writing to higher authority all the circumstances of the case.

(Art.83 is not of sufficient value to quote).

  
FREDERICK D. SHARP,  
CAPTAIN, G.S.,  
MILITARY ATTACHE  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Report No.5110

March 14, 1935.

G-2 Report.

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ARGENTINA - Combat.

Subject: Natural Characteristics of Personnel  
Affecting Military Efficiency.

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. AUG 8 1940

On July 25th the Military Attaché in company with other foreign Military Attachés accredited to Argentina made an inspection of the 1st and 2nd Infantry regiments stationed in Buenos Aires.

The barracks are of stone construction, modern, well-kept and quarter an entire regiment. A general mess and dining room seating 500 cares for the entire regiment. The food was of excellent quality and apparently well prepared. I was informed that company messes were operated in the field.

The supply rooms and system of accountability were similar to those in our army. It is estimated that apparently 50% excess equipment was in stock. The troops were adequately clothed, equipped and armed.

The Divisional dispensary was clean, modern and well equipped with X-ray, operating tables etc.

Following the inspection, a review was held on the divisional parade.

The troops presented an excellent and uniform appearance and were exceptionally well trained in close order drill.

The organization of the regiments was identical with the organization of the 20th Infantry covered in G-2 Report No. 6283, I.G. 6100.25, July 16, 1940, except that a Communications Section of one officer and 16 men was included in both regiments.

-----  
COMMENTS.

It is apparent that much time is spent on close-order drill and that field service and maneuvers are neglected. The Divisional Commander, General Miranda, informed me that the men were undeveloped, not like Americans, so for that reason he was forced to spend much time on physical exercises and close-order drill.

A junior officer stated that the men were in the service for only one year, that much time was wasted on assignments and equipping, that the private soldier was given too much theoretical instruction on every possible subject; that when trained the regiments were held in Buenos Aires for possible police duties and that maneuvers were held only at the end of the training year and then for a short period.

The individual soldier appeared to be of poor quality, undeveloped, moved like an automaton and is probably poorly educated. It is apparent that the wealthy and educated classes are able to avoid military service.

The conscript registers after he has passed his 18th birthday during the months of January to March and September to October. Approximately one year and four months later the numbers are drawn and the lowest numbers are excused from service. The higher numbers are examined physically

From L/A Argentina.

Report No. 6295.

July 29, 1940.

- 1 -

G-2 Report.

- 2 -

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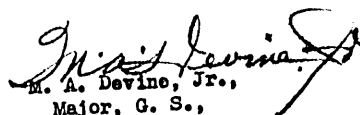
and the list published three months in advance of the date of induction, which is usually in January.

I am reliably informed that the physical rejections in the Province of Tucuman average 78% and in Formosa 80%. Official records show that of a total of 79,032 conscripts examined, 9,281 were found totally unfit and 24,067 unfit for combat service.

The N.C.O.'s are professional soldiers who serve a two, three or four year enlistment as they elect upon completing their conscript service and are eligible for reenlistment provided their services have been satisfactory.

The Divisional Surgeon stated that the Army was short of medical personnel and equipment and that in his opinion the United States Army had the finest medical service in the world. The Divisional Veterinarian expressed his admiration of and a desire to visit the United States Army during 1941 in order to study. The Commanding Officer of the 1st Infantry stated that the army was trying to build up a small arms reserve of 200,000,000 rounds but had been unsuccessful to date and that probably the only place they could get help would be in the United States. I was repeatedly questioned about our army by officers of various ranks. The above conversations are mentioned only because they tend to show that the army personnel is beginning to think and talk about the United States and its army.

Source: As stated.

  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Major, G. S.,  
Military Attaché.

Original & 5 copies airmailed July 30th.

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 6295.

July 29, 1940.

G-2 Report

FOR OFFICIAL USE  
ONLY

6400

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Military Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures.

NAVAL BUDGET 1935-1936

<u>Department</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Miscellaneous Expenses</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Pay of Navy (officers)	8,608,304		8,608,304.
" " " (enlisted)	14,655,712		14,655,712.
Extra pay for officer instructors	14,920		14,920.
Maintenance of personnel equipment		3,770,000	3,770,000.
Pay civilian personnel	6,375,384		6,375,384.
Operation expenses		4,832,000	4,832,000
Repair and renewal equip.		3,971,000	3,971,000
Misc. Expenses		1,409,352	1,409,352
Maritime Police	4,458,720	2,108,610	6,567,330.
Hydrographic Service	522,780	420,890	943,670
Transports Maintenance	232,812	165,500	398,312
Naval Home		35,060	35,060
 Total	 34,868,632	 16,713,012	 51,581,644
 Less Economy Law			 1,859,770.
 <u>Total Budget</u>		 Arg.m/n	 <u>49,721,874.</u>

Note: See Report No. 5121 (Military Budget)

Source of Information: National Budget Law.

*Frederick D. Sharp*

FREDERICK D. SHARP  
Captain, G.S.

Military Attache

Report No. 5122

March 18, 1935.

G-2 Report

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ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Military Finance.

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures.

Army Budget 1935 - 36

Dependency	Salaries	Misc. Expenses	Total
Pay of Army (officers)	23,690,700.		23,690,700.00
" " " (enlisted)	17,543,060		17,543,060.00
Secretary of War	50,100	49,200.	99,300.00
Inspector General's Dept.	110,400	18,900	129,300.00
W.D. General Staff	60,000	132,876	192,876.00
J.A. General's Dept.	19,980	11,880	31,860.00
Adjutant General's Dept.	202,980	15,060	218,040.00
Quartermaster General's Dept	1,831,880	15,853,670	17,685,550.00
Ordnance Dept.	4,960,536	1,806,500	6,767,036.00
Const. Engineers Dept.	40,560	363,400	403,960.00
Military Map Rep. Plant	601,740	362,546	965,286.00
Air Corps	2,045,160	3,024,900	5,079,060.00
Signal Corps	265,320	161,418	426,738.00
Target Practice & Gym. Dept.	104,340	140,374	244,714.00
Medical Dept.	477,060	501,977	979,037.00
Divisions of Army	183,000	302,537	485,537.00
War College	83,280	28,854	112,134.00
Technical Industrial College	122,700	7,160	129,860.00
Military School	408,300	63,000	471,300.00
Noncommissioned Officers			
School	2,400	18,000	20,400.00
Cavalry School		8,000	8,000.00
Artillery School	5,760	35,682	41,442.00
Infantry School	7,800	22,705	30,505.00
Signal School	34,560	21,660	56,220.00
Target Practice & Gym. School		6,000	6,000.00
Total	52,851,616	22,957,299	75,808,915.00
			Arg.m/n

Aviation Budget is 6.7% of total military budget.

Naval Aviation Budget is 9 % of total naval budget.

Military Budget is 11.8% of total National Budget

Naval Budget is 7.7% of total National Budget.

Total Budget in U.S.dollars is \$18,952,257.50

Source of Information: National Budget Law.

*Frederick D. Sharp*  
FREDERICK D. SHARP,  
Captain, G.S.  
Military Attache

Report No. 5121

March 18, 1935.



FOR OFFICIAL USE  
G-2 Report ONLY  
ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength

(a) Combatant Arms.

Infantry - Peace.

15 regiments - 30 battalions - 60 companies - 15 machine-gun companies.

Infantry Mounted:

2 regiments (8th and 10th Infantry) - 2 Bns. - 5 companies  
2 MG companies

Infantry Mountain Troops

2 regiments (16th and 20th Infantry) - 4 Bns. 8 companies -  
2 MG companies

Infantry (Arsenal Guards and School Troops)

1 regiment (4th Infantry) 5 Bns. - 8 companies - 3 MG companies.

Infantry - War

In time of war, 7 Divisions will be organized:

	<u>Officers and</u> <u>Asimilados</u>	<u>Enlisted</u> <u>Men</u>	<u>Attached</u> <u>Medical</u>
21 Regiment Hdqts.	189	1575	
63 Bn.Hdqts.	189	3780	
252 Companies	1260	54432	1160
63 MG Companies	315	6615	441
21 Accompanying Batteries	84	3885	147
21 Regimental Trains	21	1218	21

Accompanying Artillery

Attached to and forming part of the Detachments "Sud" and "Comodoro Rivadavia" are two accompanying batteries:

Total Infantry Units and Personnel:

20 regiments, 41 battalions, 81 companies, 22 machine-gun companies, 2 accompanying batteries (7 officers, 236 enlisted men and 2 civilians).

Officers, regular and asimilados, 558; enlisted men, volunteers, asimilados and conscripts, 11,457; civilians 185  
Total 12,200

Note: "Asimilados" are officers and noncommissioned officers of the Medical Department, Dental and Veterinary Corps, Quartermaster and Finance Departments.

From M.A.Argentina Report No.5127 March 22,1935.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.INFANTRY REGIMENT WAR

	<u>Officers and Asimilados</u>	<u>Enlisted Men</u>	<u>Attached Medical</u>
1 Regimental Hdqts.	9	75	
3 Battalion Hdqts. (Signal section attached)	9	180	
12 Companies	60	2592	60
3 Machine-gun companies	15	303	21
1 Accompanying Battery (Signal section attached)	4	185	7
1 Regimental train (animal drawn)	1	58	1
Totals	155	9594	246

Infantry Regiment PeaceRegimental Hdqts.

1 Lieut.Colonel		
1 First lieutenant		
1 Surgeon	) Asimilado Officers	
1 Quartermaster		
1 Master of the Sword		
1 Band Master		
1 Sgt. Major		
1 First Corporal		
27 Enlisted Bandmen Volunteers		
9 " conscripts		
2 Quartermaster Corps Sgts.	) Asimilado Enlisted	
1 Medical, Hospital Steward Sgt.		
1 " Pharmacist		
1 Asst. Band Leader		
2 " " 2nd and 3rd class		
1 Electrician	) Civilians	
2 Mechanics		
1 Horseshoer		
1 tailor		
1 Shoemaker		
2 Cooks		

Totals

Officers 2, Officers Asimilado 4, Enlisted Men Volunteers 29, Enlisted Men Conscripts 9, Enlisted Men Asimilados 7, Civilians 8:  
Grand Total: 59

1 Regt. Signal Section

1 officer; 3 noncommissioned officers; 36 enlisted men conscripts; 8 horses riding, 24 horses draft, 4 signal carts

2 Battalion Hdqts. and Staffs

2 officers, 1 noncommissioned officer; 5 enlisted men conscripts; 4 horses riding; 3 mules draft; 1 ration and baggage cart.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.4 Rifle Companies

3 Officers; 12 noncommissioned officers, 2 enlisted men volunteers; 78 enlisted men conscripts; 2 horses, riding; 6 horses, draft; 3 mules draft; 6 mules pack; 6 auto rifles; 1 rolling kitchen; 1 ration and baggage wagon; 6 pack saddles auto rifle.

1 Machine Gun Company

3 officers; 9 noncommissioned officers; 2 enlisted men volunteers; 60 enlisted men conscripts; 4 horses, riding; 6 horses draft; 3 mules, draft; 12 mules, pack; 6 machine guns; 1 rolling kitchen; 1 ration and baggage wagon; 6 aparejos machine gun; 6 aparejos machine gun ammunition.

Total Regiment

22 officers, 4 officers asimilados, 64 noncommissioned officers, 6 noncommissioned officers asimilado, 37 enlisted men (volunteers); 427 enlisted men (conscripts), 8 civilians  
Grand Total: 567

Infantry Regiment WarRegimental Hdqts. and Staff

1 Lieut.Colonel  
 1 Captain  
 2 First lieutenants  
 1 Lieutenant  
 (Attached)  
 1 Surgeon )  
 1 Quartermaster )  
 1 Master of Sword ) Asimilados  
 1 Band Master )  
 1 Sgt. Major  
 1 First Corporal  
 27 Bandmen (Volunteers)  
 46 Enlisted Men Conscripts  
 2 Quartermaster Sgts. )  
 1 Medical Corps Sgt. ) Asimilados  
 1 " " Pharmacist )  
 3 Bandleaders and assistants  
 1 Electrician )  
 2 Mechanics )  
 1 Horseshoer ) Civilians  
 1 Tailor )  
 1 Shoemaker )  
 2 Cooks

3 Battalion Hdqts. and Signal Sections

9 officers, 9 noncommissioned officers, 171 enlisted men

12 Companies (rifle)

60 officers, 2,592 enlisted men, 60 medical attached

3 Machine gun Companies

15 officers, 303 enlisted men, 21 medical attached

From M.A.Argentina

Report No.5127

March 22,1935

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.1 Battery accompanying and Signal Section

4 officers, 185 enlisted men, 7 medical attached

1 Regimental Train

1 officer, 58 enlisted men, 1 medical attached

Totals155 officers and asimilados; 39 noncommissioned officers  
asimilados; 9,555 enlisted men; 246 medical attachedGrand Total 9,995736 horses, riding; 1,995 horses, draft; 108 auto rifles  
7.65 m/m Madsen; 24 machine guns 7.65 m/m colt.Regt. Signal Communication Section (Peace)

- 1 First lieutenant
- 1 Sergeant
- 2 First corporals
- 36 Enlisted conscripts.

Infantry Battalion (Peace)Battalion Hdqts. and Staff

- 1 Major
- 1 Lieutenant
- 1 Corporal
- 5 Enlisted men conscripts

2 Rifle Companies6 officers, 24 noncommissioned officers, 156 enlisted men  
conscripts, 4 enlisted men (volunteers)1 Machine Gun Company3 officers, 9 noncommissioned officer, 60 enlisted men con-  
scripts, 2 enlisted men (volunteers).8 horses, riding; 18 horses, draft; 9 mules, draft; 24  
mules, pack; 6 machine gun 7.65 m/m Colt; 12 auto rifles  
7.65 m/m Madsen; 3 rolling kitchens; 3 ration and baggage  
carts; 12 aparejos auto rifle; 6 aparejos machine gun;  
6 aparejos machine gun ammunition.Total Battalion 27611 officers, 34 noncommissioned officers, 225 enlisted men,  
(conscripts), 6 enlisted men (volunteers).Infantry Battalion (War) attached Sig. Section

- 1 Major
- 2 Lieutenants
- 1 Sergeant
- 2 First Corporals
- 57 Enlisted men conscripts

4 Companies (rifle)

20 officers, 864 enlisted men, 20 medical attached

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.1 Machine gun Company

5 officers, 101 enlisted men, 7 medical attached

Totals: 28 officers, 1,025 enlisted men, 27 medical attached  
Grand Total: 1,080.Infantry Company (Peace)

- 1 Captain
- 1 First lieutenant
- 1 Sub lieutenant
- 1 First sergeant
- 3 Sergeants
- 4 First corporals
- 4 Corporals
- 2 Buglers enlisted volunteers
- 78 Enlisted men conscripts

Total: 3 officers, 92 enlisted men.

The infantry company is divided into three platoons. Each platoon (called "section") has from four to eight squads, of which two to four are rifle squads and two to four are auto-rifle squads.

The rifle squad (group) consists of a corporal and seven men who have duties as follows: squad leader, assistant squad leader, five riflemen, and a runner.

The auto rifle squad consists of a squad leader, assistant squad leader (rifleman telescopic sight), signalman, rifleman, runner, auto rifleman, stretcher bearer and rangefinder operator.

Infantry Company (War)

- 1 Captain
  - 1 First lieutenant
  - 2 Lieutenants
  - 1 Sub lieutenant
  - 216 Noncommissioned officers and enlisted men conscripts
  - 5 Enlisted men medical
- (No information on noncommissioned officers available)

Totals: 5 officers, 216 enlisted men, 5 medical  
Grand Total: 226.

Infantry  
Machine Gun Company (Peace)

- 1 Captain
  - 1 Lieutenant
  - 1 Sub-lieutenant
  - 1 Master Sergeant
  - 1 First Sergeant
- (cont'd on next page)

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5127

March 22, 1935.

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.

- 2 Sergeants
- 2 First corporals
- 3 Corporals
- 2 Buglers (Enlisted men volunteers)
- 60 Enlisted men conscripts

Total 3 officers, 71 enlisted men.

The company consists of three platoons, each platoon consists of 2 machine guns. Total 6 machine guns.

Machine Gun Company (War)

- 1 Captain
- 2 First lieutenants
- 1 Lieutenant
- 1 Sub lieutenant
- 101 Noncommissioned officers and enlisted men conscripts
- 7 Enlisted Men Medical

8 machine guns 7.65 m/m Colt.

Infantry Accompanying Battery (Peace)

- 1 Captain
- 1 First lieutenant
- 1 Lieutenant
- 1 Sub lieutenant
- 1 First Sgt.
- 4 Sergeants
- 3 First Corporals
- 3 Corporals
- 2 Buglers (enlisted men volunteers)
- 80 Enlisted men conscripts
- 1 Mechanic )
- 1 Horseshoer ) Civilians.

Total : Officers 4, 103 enlisted, 2 civilians.

Accompanying battery consists of 2 platoons of 2 pieces each. 75 m/m Type L 30 Model 1909 Krupp.

Infantry Accompanying Battery (War)

- 1 Captain
- 2 First lieutenants
- 1 Lieutenant
- 1 Sub lieutenant
- 185 Enlisted men noncommissioned officers and conscripts
- 6 - 75 m/m guns, 3 platoons, each equipped to act as an independent unit.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.Infantry Regiment Mounted (Peace)Headquarters

1	Lieut. Colonel	
1	Lieutenant	
1	Medical officer (Surgeon)	)
1	Quartermaster & Finance	) Asimilado Officers
1	Veterinary	)
1	Master of the Sword	)
1	Sgt. Major	
1	First Corporal	
25	Enlisted men volunteers (Bandmen)	
10	Enlisted men conscripts	
2	Quartermaster Corps Enlisted Men	)
2	Medical	) Asimilado Enlisted
1	Asst. Band leader	) Men
2	" " 2nd & 3rd class	)
2	Mechanics (armorers)	)
1	Horseshoer blacksmith	)
1	Tailor	) Civilians.
1	Shoemaker	)
2	Cooks	)

2 Battalions of 3 companies each, 1 Machine gun Company

Total: Officers, 30 regular and asimilados, Enlisted men 559  
(Volunteers, asimilados and conscripts), 7 civilians.

Infantry Battalion Mounted (Peace).

1	Major
1	Lieutenant
1	First Corporal
5	Enlisted men conscripts
2	Buglers (enlisted volunteers)
3	Rifle companies mtd.

Total: Officers 11, Enlisted Men 312.

Infantry Company Mounted (Peace)

1	Captain
1	Lieutenant
1	Sub lieutenant
1	First Sergeant
3	Sergeants
4	First Corporals
4	Corporals
2	Buglers (enlisted men volunteers)
90	Enlisted men conscripts.

Total: Officers 3, Enlisted men 104.

A rifle company consists of 3 platoons and is constituted as a foot rifle company. Men armed with carbines instead of rifles.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.Infantry Battalion Mounted (War)

No information is available on number of personnel.

- 4 companies (rifle)
- 1 Signal section
- 1 Machine gun company
- 1 Battalion train.

Machine gun company is equipped with 8 Colt machine guns  
7.65 m/m.

Each rifle company is equipped with 9 auto rifles 7.65 m/m  
Madsen.

It is assumed that the organization is the same as the regular infantry battalion except that all are mounted.

Infantry Regiment Mountain (Peace)Headquarters

- 1 Lieutenant Colonel
- 1 First lieutenant
- 1 Master or Staff Sergeant
- 1 First Corporal
- 29 Bandmen (enlisted men volunteers)
- 9 Enlisted men conscripts
- 1 Medical officer (surgeon) )
- 1 Quartermaster ) Asimilado Officers
- 1 Master of the Sword )
- 1 Bandmaster )
- 2 Quartermaster Sgts. )
- 1 Medical Sgt. ) Asimilado Enlisted Men
- 1 Band leader )
- 2 Asst. band leaders 2 & 3 class )
- 2 Mechanics (armorers) )
- 1 Horseshoer blacksmith )
- 2 Tailors ) Civilians
- 2 Shoemakers )
- 2 Cooks )

1 Signal Section

- 1 First lieutenant
- 1 Sergeant
- 2 Corporals
- 23 Enlisted men conscripts

Total: Officers 7, Enlisted men 72, Civilians 9,  
2 Battalions Mountain Infantry 2 companies each.  
1 Machine gun company: organized as a regular infantry  
machine gun company.

Mountain Guide Section (Peace)

- 1 Lieutenant
  - 1 Sergeant
  - 1 First Corporal
  - 2 Corporals
  - 6 Buglers (Enlisted men volunteers)
  - 5 Enlisted men conscripts
- Total: Officers 1, Enlisted 15.



ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.Infantry Regiment Mountain (War)

No information is available as to personnel, but from the schematic drawings of the war organization, it appears to be the same as the regular infantry regiment except that a regimental machine gun company is substituted for the infantry accompanying battery.

The machine gun company is equipped with 8 machine guns, of 4 sections, 2 guns to the section. There is no animal drawn transportation assigned. However, it is provided for when usable.

Infantry Battalion Mountain (Peace)Headquarters

1 Major  
1 Lieutenant  
1 Corporal  
5 Enlisted men conscripts  
2 Rifle companies mountain  
Total: Officers 8, Enlisted men 198.

Infantry Company Mountain (Peace)

1 Captain  
1 First lieutenant  
1 Sub lieutenant  
1 First Sergeant  
3 Sergeants  
4 First Corporals  
4 Corporals  
2 Buglers (Enlisted men volunteers)  
82 Enlisted men conscripts  
Total: Officers 3, enlisted men 96, same organization as a regular rifle company.

Infantry Regiment 4th  
(Arsenal guards and school troops)

This regiment is composed of the various battalions of arsenal guards and one battalion of school troops. Its organization corresponds to that of any regular infantry regiment. (See Note).

Headquarters and Signal Section

1 Colonel  
1 Lieutenant Colonel  
4 Majors  
13 Captains  
14 First lieutenants  
20 Lieutenants  
12 Sub lieutenants  
1 Medical Officer (Surgeon) ) Asimilado Officer

(Cont'd on next page)

From M.A.Argentina Report No.5127 March 22,1935.

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Organization and Strength.

(a) Combatant Arms.

## Infantry Regiment 4th (Cont'd from Page -9-)

2	Quartermaster Corps	)	
1	Veterinary Corps	)	Asimilado
2	Masters of Sword	)	Officers
1	Band Master	)	
2	Master or Staff Sgts.		
2	Sgts. Major		
11	First Sergeants		
49	Sergeants		
43	First Corps		
38	Corporals		
88	Bandmen and buglers (enlisted volunteers)		
1368	Enlisted conscripts		
90	Enlisted men (Punishment tours)		
5	Quartermaster Corps enlisted men	)	Asimilado
2	Medical Corps enlisted men	)	Enlisted
3	Asst. band leaders	)	
5	Mechanics	)	
3	Horseshoers blacksmiths	)	
1	Saddler	)	
4	Shoemakers	)	Civilians
4	Tailors	)	
5	Cooks	)	
1	Carpenter	)	

2 Battalions 2 companies each and 1 machine gun company  
stationed at Infantry School

1 Battalion 2 companies and 1 machine gun company  
stationed at Esteban de Luca - Buenos Aires

1 Battalion 1 company stationed at San Lorenzo - Rosario

1 Battalion 1 company stationed at Jose Maria Rojas

Total: Officers 72, enlisted men 1701, Civilians 23.\* Note:

In time of war, the reserves which pertain to this  
regiment will form the arsenal guards, while the  
others will form the regular 4th Infantry.

Source of Information: Tables of Organization of the  
Argentina Army.

*Frederick D. Sharp*  
FREDERICK D. SHARP

Captain, G.S.  
Military Attache.

Report No. 5127

March 22, 1935.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA - Combat

Subject: Organization.

The 6th Infantry Division.

1. A 6th. Infantry Division was added to the Argentine Army by Special Decree of the President October 14, 1936.

The class of 1937 was increased by 3000 conscripts to allow for the personnel of this new division, and the old 2nd. Division area was divided to provide its territorial assignment.

The eastern half of the Province of Buenos Aires, excluding the Federal Capital, has become the new 2nd. Division area, and the western half, with the provinces of La Pampa, Neuquen, Rio Negro, Chubut, Santa Cruz and Tierra del Fuego, which forms an area generally known as Patagonia, has become the new 6th. Division area. (See map attached.)

The following organizations have now been assigned, and advance party detachments already occupy the stations as listed below:

6th. Div. Hdqrs. & Hdqrs. Troops ---City of Bahia Blanca.  
5th. Inf. Regiment -----City of Bahia Blanca.  
6th. Brigade of Engineers(Sappers)---City of Bahia Blanca.  
8th. Inf. Regiment -----Colonia Sarmiento.  
10th. Inf. Regiment -----Covunco Centro.  
6th. Mounted Artillery Regiment -----Neuquen.

(For Coast Artillery in this area see separate G-2 report #5581)

Provisionally, until permanent barracks are finished, the headquarters of the Infantry and Artillery regiments are located at Bahia Blanca, the 8th. Infantry at Comodoro Rivadavia, the 10th. Infantry and 6th. Artillery at Campo de Mayo and the 6th. Sapper Brigade at Mendoza.

This new division includes the 18th, 24th, 25th, 26th, 65th and 66th Military districts.

2. There have been many comments in Chile as well as Argentina in the press of these countries regarding this increase in the size of the Army, and the reasons for having troops stationed in Patagonia.

The "Vanguardia" (official organ of the Socialist Party) of April 30, 1937 states: "A Chilean daily, La Opinion, well known for its equilibrium and good inspirations, for it's pacifistic and just policy, has published an extensive and alarming editorial on Argentina. It reads: "Belicose minds are pushing the Argentine authorities to militarize Patagonia and stimulating a popular anti-Chilean movement, endangering thereby peace in America". How easy it is to spread misunderstandings."

"Nothing endangers the fraternity of people on either side of the mountain range, no ill-will, no rancor, no offensive purposes,

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5582

Date: May 10, 1937

more than a small movement of troops, a few irresponsible words or foolishness published by sensational sheets (not even read by the press readers). This has been enough to cause some of the best intellects in Chile to believe in a "Chauvinistic" campaign."

The Vanguardia of Buenos Aires then goes on to say: "The rapidity with which these slanders are spread and enlarged indicate we should be permanently on our guard in order to prevent anyone from disturbing the good friendship of the countries of the continent."

"The people of Chile can be certain, absolutely certain, that the Argentine people only harbour generous fraternal sentiments towards them. Nobody in this country contemplates the invasion of Chile, nor even in creating any difficulties for them. On the contrary, we are not her enemies, and the small groups who voice their aggressive patriotism are not enemies of Chile, but partisans of increased armament expenditure."

"La Opinion" refers to the creation of the 6th. Division of the Army in Patagonia as a bellicose attitude. Such is not the case. In Patagonia there was not a single soldier. Some have been sent, and this is quite natural. Hence the contrast between what did not exist and the exaggerated reports spread with reference to the new military unit, has made a mountain out of a mole hill. Our Chilean friends can rest at ease. All of us have a fraternal feeling towards them. The Army has not gone to Patagonia with any aggressive purpose, but responds to a normal movement towards the south; the reason is to populate it, send down workmen, teachers, and why not soldiers?"

"We have also something to say to those at home. It is seen how attitudes and words are misunderstood at a distance. Then let us try not to give rise to suspicions. We are all pacifists, but there are those who transform their "Chauvinism" into a profession, those who try to deviate public attention towards exterior visions, in the hopes of profiting with armaments or taking advantage of the budget. We should energetically oppose this insignificant class, a class capable of alarming our neighbors. Let us only hear the authentic voice of Argentina, the voice of peace and sincere friendship towards all countries."

Mr. Spruille Braden, American Ambassador to the Chaco Peace Conference, who is well informed on Chilean public opinion through his residence there and his Chilean family, says: "Although the 6th. Army Division was organized, allegedly, for the policing of Patagonia and to demonstrate to the inhabitants of the areas concerned that they are not being neglected by the Argentine Government, nevertheless, the same end, in his opinion could have been better served had civilian administration been sent to Patagonia."

"By sending the Army and building military roads and construction there, it has raised Chilean suspicion."

"It is known that many of the Chilean settlers in Patagonia until recently have registered their children with the Chilean authorities due to the difficulties of achieving Argentine registration; the children thus become Chilean citizens through the "jus sanguinis" legalized by registration."

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"Chilean understanding of the reason for this 6th. Army Corps is truculence on the part of the Argentine Army and on the part of the Foreign Minister. There is continual boasting in Argentina of its wealth as compared to Chilean poverty, which does not help relations very much. As evidence in support of the Chilean view may be adduced the reported smash-buckling of younger Argentines who confidently say that war with Chile is unavoidable. The prize is of course the undefendable Chilean portion of Tierra del Fuego, allocated to her under the Treaty of 1906."

"Obviously with such a feeling already existing the organization of the 6th. Army Division was not going to ease matters at all between the two countries. The immediate response of Chile was the appropriation of \$100,000,000 Chilean pesos for armaments."

"It seems to me that other means to achieve necessary policing could have been found to kill the fly on the nose of Argentine-Chilean friendly relations than using a bludgeon for the purpose."

3. Remarks by the Military Attache.

It is believed that Argentina desires to nationalize this southern area of her country where there are at present so many Chileans living off of and squatting on that land, and to protect the native Argentines (who are greatly outnumbered there) from roving bandits - alleged Chileans - who live by robbery. Nevertheless, it is believed that Argentina is not altogether altruistic in this matter, that from a military point of view she is envious of Chile's strategic position commanding the Magellan Straights, and from an economic point of view, covets that land south of Santa Cruz Province and west of Tierra del Fuego which is becoming more valuable every day and into which it is said Argentines are infiltrating in increasing numbers. Some one has well said that Chile who needs money at present might as well sell that land to Argentina now for a good price, rather than to wait and eventually have her absorb it. Its location is such that it would be very hard for Chile to defend should Argentina seize it.

Sources of Information: Official & as stated.

*Lester Baker*

Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attache

(Map attached)

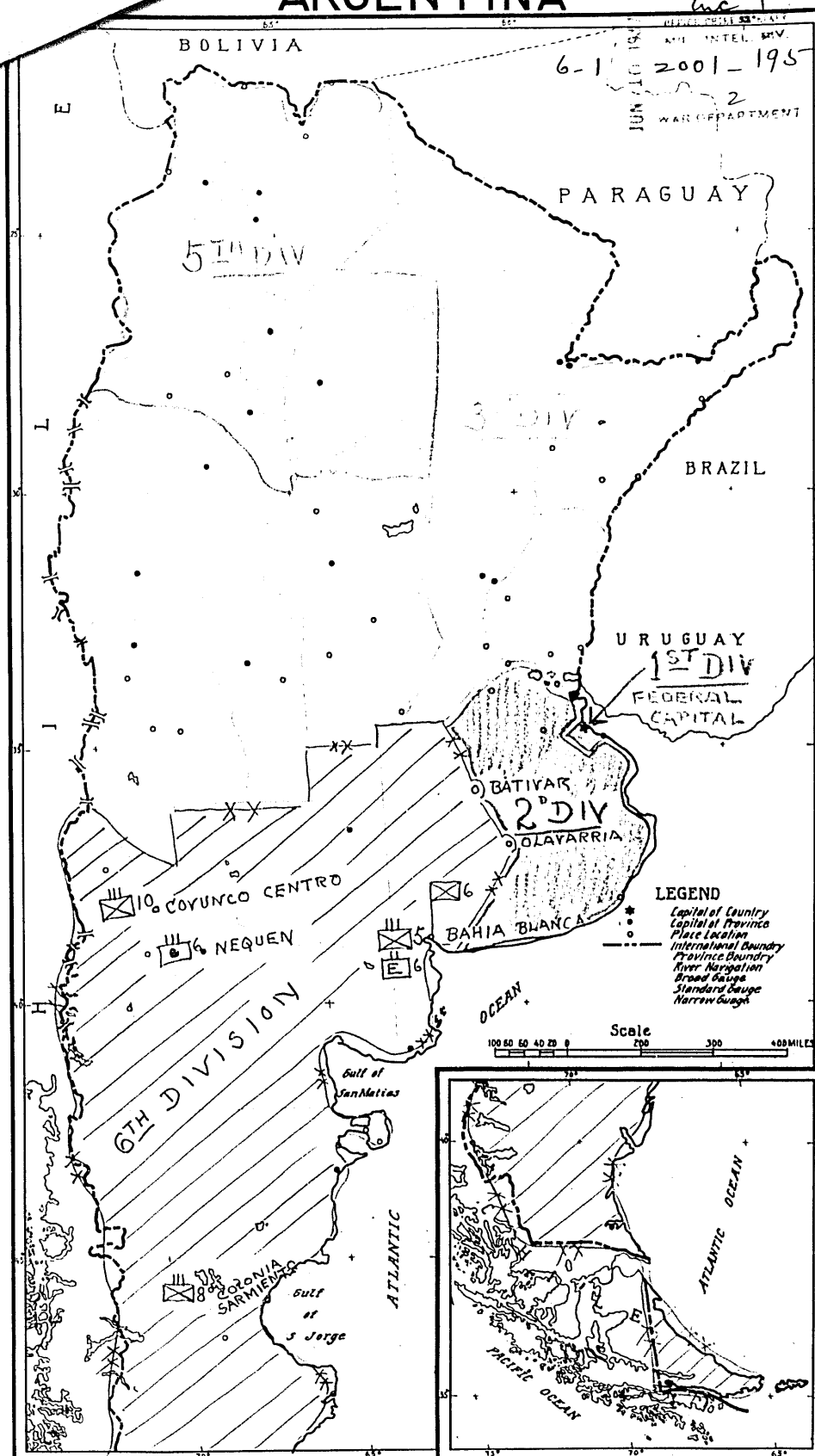
From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5582

Date: May 10, 1937

# ARGENTINA

Enc 1



MID. G.S. U.S.A., 1926 MAP. NO. 124-

Map to accompany Report H-5582 - May 10th. 1937.- I.G.6180-a

6.16 1936  
GENERAL STAFF  
MIL. IN. DIV.  
2001-196  
APR 16 1936  
WAR DEPARTMENTARGENTINA (Combat - Army)  
Subject: Mobilization - General(d) Capacity of Industry to Meet Mobilization Requirements.

In fulfilment of Law 12,104 providing for the general census to be taken throughout the territory of the Republic of manufacturing and extracting industries, and analogous works carried out in factories, plants, shops, mines, quarries or in workmen's homes.

Article 1.- The National Committee of the Industrial Census, presided over by the Under Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Carlos Brebbia; the Director General of Statistics of the Nation, Mr. Alfredo Lucadamo; the Director of Commerce and Industry of the Ministry of Agriculture, Doctor Andres Maspero Castro; the Chief of the Division of Statistics of the National Labor Department, Mr. Jose Figueroa; the Sub-Director of Economic Investigations of the Bank of the Argentine Nation, Mr. Hector C. Liaudat; and Lieutenant Colonel Servando Santillana, of the Ministry of War, is hereby appointed.

Article 2.- This committee will be in charge of the formation of the plan under which the census must be taken; the fixing of the favorable seasons in which to carry out the pertinent investigations in each branch of industry and, in general, the fulfilment of the ends pursued by the law.

Article 3.- An Honorary Council of the Industrial Census under the presidency of Mr. Luis Colombo, President of the Argentine Industrial Union and formed by the members of the same entity: Mr. Ernesto L. Herbin, Engineer Francisco Prati, Mr. J. Salvador Cordova, Mr. Luis F. Valle, Mr. Emilio Pujal, Engineer Torcuato Di Tella, Engineer Antonio Bergeron, Mr. Pablo Demarchi, Mr. Alberto C. Plantie, Mr. Jorge Enrique Treasca, Mr. Maximo Fibravanti, Mr. Eduardo Rocha, Doctor Hugo Puiggari, Doctor Jorge Maguin, Doctor Vicente Stabile, Mr. Gregorio Bonet, Mr. Juan Etcheagaray and Mr. Antonio Botelho, is appointed. This Honorary Council will act as adviser to the National Committee of the Industrial Census by offering any suggestion which it may deem appropriate; facilitating the task by means of data which the Committee may require and cooperating towards the success of the work through the broad dissemination of the ends and purposes pursued by the Law and the general benefits to be derived from the fulfilment thereof.

Article 4.- Mr. Alfredo Lucadamo, Director General of Statistics of the Nation and Mr. Ramon Lequerica, are hereby appointed Director of the Industrial Census and Technical Adviser, respectively.

Article 5.- The Director of the Census will submit to the consideration of the National Committee, through the medium of its President, copies of forms to be adopted, as well as the estimate of salaries and expenditures and the designation of the personnel considered necessary.

Article 6.- The National Committee of the Industrial Census may address itself directly to the national, provincial and municipal authorities while it performs its mission.

Article 7.- The management of funds assigned to the Census will be entrusted to the Division of Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture which will deal directly with the President of the National Committee of the Census.

Article 8.- The Division of Administration of the Ministry of Agriculture, through the medium of which the management of funds are destined to the fulfilment of Law No. 12,104, will dispense with the requisite of public calling for bids and will effect - through private bids - any purchase of effects, equipment, material, paper, printing material and other elements required by the Committee in charge.

ARGENTINA (Combat - Army)  
Subject: Mobilization - General

(d) Capacity of Industry to Meet Mobilization Requirements.

Article 9.- These bids, in cases in which the value involved should exceed 1000 pesos gold, will be submitted, in each case, to the approval of the Executive Power, at a Cabinet meeting, in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 428, article 24.

Article 10.- All operations connected with the Industrial Census as well as with the provisions of the Resolution of December 2, 1930, will be exempt from intervention on the part of the Regulating Committee of Expenditures.

Article 11.- The General Administration of Posts and Telegraphs will open an account for all the postal and telegraphic correspondence relative to the Census.

Article 12.- The time limit stipulated by Article 5 of the Law will begin as from the date on which the Executive Power may approve the plan of work to be submitted by the National Committee of the Census.

Article 13.- The annual Statistics and the permanent register to which reference is made in article 2 and 7 of the Law, will be in the charge of the General Division of Statistics of the Nation, and for this purpose, the latter Division will obtain the property of the antecedents, furniture, equipment, machines, etc., which may be acquired for the Industrial Census. In due course, the said General Division will submit to the Executive Power the plan for the permanent organization of industrial statistics.

Decreeing the realization of the Industrial Census ordered by Law 12,104, with the exception of Clauses 4 and 5 of article 3 thereof, both of which will be entrusted to the National Labor Department:

Buenos Aires, September 19, 1935.

It is obviously fitting to utilize the works already completed by the National Department of Labor in the fulfilment of its specific mission, in order to avoid the simultaneous obtaining of similar data, which might give rise to uneven compilations according to the methods adopted in each case and other circumstances;

In fulfilling Law No. 8999 and Decree No. 16,116 of January 16, 1933, the National Department of Labor proceeded to take a professional census in the Federal Capital in January last; a similar task is about to be effected in the Provinces and Territories;

This work must continue through the medium of periodical and regular information which will enable the National Department of Labor to obtain as of any date, all the necessary data concerning the personnel employed;

From compilations made and to be made by the said Department, including all paid activities, there should be set apart, in due course, all information that is specifically related to industries referred to under the provisions of Law No. 12,104;

Article 1.- The National Committee of the Industrial Census created by Decree No. 61,030, of May 18, 1935, will organize in accordance with the provisions of said Decree, the completion of the Industrial Census ordered by Law No. 12,104 with the exception of the points contained in clauses 4 and 5 of Article 3 thereof.

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5323

March 17, 1936.



ARGENTINA (Combat - Army)  
Subject: Mobilization - General

6600

(d) Capacity of Industry to Meet Mobilization Requirements.


Article 2.- The collection, compilation and publication of data relative to clauses 4 and 5 of Article 3 of Law 12,104 will be entrusted to the exclusive care of the National Labor Department as part of the professional Census which is being taken at present by said Department, apart from the usual synthetic information connected with this work which the National Committee of the Industrial Census may consider indispensable to obtain, such as that relating to the total amount of salaries and wages paid, number of employees and workers grouped by sex, as well as by age below or above eighteen years, usual working hours, etc.

Article 3.- Apart from any publication which the National Labor Department may issue on this subject, in due course and on such topics as it may deem appropriate, it will compile and publish all information concerning the personnel as required by the Law, with special reference to the date which may be fixed for the taking of the Industrial Census. This publication will be covered by funds pertaining to the same Law and will be part of that issued by the National Committee of the Industrial Census.

Article 4.- The task entrusted to the National Labor Department will be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of Law 12,104 and 12 of Decree dated May 18, 1935.

Article 5.- The provisions of Article 6,7,8 and 9 of Law 12,104 extend to the National Labor Department insofar as they may obtain by virtue of the mission entrusted to it in fulfillment of said law.

Source: Military Bulletin

  
Frederick D. Sharp  
Capt., G.S.,  
Military Attache.

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6-1 2001-197  
6400-a (2)

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA (Combat - Army)

Subject: War Department Budget and Expenditures  
Army Budget 1936-1937.

DEPARTMENT	SALARIES	OTHER EXPENSES.	TOTAL
Pay of Army, Officers	\$ 23,865,500		\$ 23,865,500
" " " , Enlisted	17,586,500		17,586,500
Ministry & Secretary's Office	50,100	49,200	99,300
Inspector General's Dept.	110,400	18,900	129,300
General Staff Corps	60,000	132,876	192,876
Judge Advocate General's Dept.	21,540	11,880	33,420
Adjutant General's Dept.	202,980	15,060	218,040
Quartermaster General's Dept.	1,830,440	15,672,744	17,504,184
Ordinance Dept. (Const. Q.M.)	4,960,536	1,755,100	6,715,636
Chief of Engineers	40,560	413,400	453,960
Map Reproduction Dept.	598,140	357,546	955,686
5 Divisions of the Army	183,000	281,000	464,000
Signal Corps	265,320	161,418	426,738
Target Practice & Athletic Dept.	104,340	140,374	244,714
Medical Dept.	200,460	544,220	744,680
Central Military Hospital	332,340	79,987	412,327
Air Corps	672,720	1,175,400	1,818,120
Air Corps Technical Dept.	1,692,340	1,399,500	3,091,840
War College	71,850	28,854	100,734
Industrial & Technical College	130,500	7,160	137,660
Military Academy	425,460	63,840	489,300
N.C.O. School	8,160	22,000	30,160
Cavalry School		8,000	8,000
Artillery School	5,760	28,500	34,260

(Continued on Page 2.)

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5338

Date: March 27, 1936.

7-1 Report

6400-1 (a)

DEPARTMENT	SALARIES	OTHER EXPENSES.	TOTAL
	(Continued from Page 1.)		
Infantry School	7,300	12,700	21,500
Signal School	18,480	12,000	30,480
Total all departments	\$ 53,415,256	\$ 22,392,659	\$ 75,808,915
At mint par value of peso (2.40) to U.S. dollar U.S. Cy	\$ 22,256,356	\$ 9,320,691	\$ 31,584,047

Monies to be expended for the Army through the Public Works Department for new construction \$8,681,000 m/n, or \$3,617,083 U.S. Cy. Special appropriation by Congress for purchase of new aircraft of \$20,000,000 m/n, or \$8,332,333 U.S. Cy. This amount is not included in the above budget.

Total monies from all sources amount to \$43,534,463 U.S. Cy.

Army budget is 8.2% of total national budget.  
Army budget is 61.% of national defense budget.

Budget for 1935 was \$31,584,047, at 2.40 m/n to 1 U.S. Dollar; but figured at the current rate of exchange for March 18, 1935 it was \$18,952,257.50.

Source: Official Budget of Government.

*Frederick D. Sharp.*  
Frederick D. Sharp  
Captain, G.S.,  
Military Attache.

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5338

Date: March 27, 1936.

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2001-197  
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6400-a

G-2 Report

ARGENTINA - Combat

Subject: War Department Budget 1937.

Discussion in Congress

Sr. Basualdo, spokesman for the Budget Commission, stated that the War Department budget for 1937, amounting to \$86,808,915 pesos, is an increase of \$10,500,000 pesos over 1936.

"The principle causes for the increase are:

a. The creation of a new 6th Division of the Army, with Headquarters in the city of Bahia Blanca, its area to cover the Federal Territories of Neuquen, Chubut and Santa Cruz which is all called Patagonia.

b. The increase of personnel, that is, the number of conscripts called to the colors each year.

c. The adoption of innumerable types of automatic arms, motorized forces, communication units, heavy artillery, etc., which call for more technically trained men."

"The above increase does not include any expenditure for the purchase of new war material, as this is provided for by secret law No. 11,266, and disbursed by the Executive Power according to his judgment and as the State finances permit."

"As a consequence of the above plan for improvements in the Army, the number of conscripts has been increased. This has necessitated, naturally, a larger expenditure."

"The Commission understands that the war budget submitted by the Executive Power, is adjusted to the present necessities of the National Army, and does not weigh disproportionately on the national finances, and does not show a lack of proportion with the other items in the general expense budget. For these reasons, the Budget Commission advises the Honorable Chamber of Deputies to give its sanction to the project."

The discussion in Congress on the above was brief. The principle spokesmen for the opposition, were Representatives Sr. Noble (Progressive Democrat) and Sr. J.A. Solari (Socialist).

Representative Sr. Noble, based his opposition to the project as submitted on the following grounds.

That the increase of 12,000 conscripts, in his opinion, was not taking the best advantage of the situation because at present the size or large numbers in the personnel of military organization had lost a great part of its importance. Modern armament had in a large measure replaced men. Automatic arms placed a small army well equipped and well trained in an advantageous position over a numerically superior army not as well equipped or trained. He did not believe it was necessary for greater efficiency in the different army units to increase them numerically. He thought the regrouping of the existing conscripts would tend to obtain better results, obtaining at the same time a

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5541

Date: March 12, 1937

G-2 Report

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greater efficiency of command and training.

He went on to say, that it was necessary at the present moment to build on a different basis to that which is common now in the Argentine and other armies. "Automatic arms have altered the existing unity, fifty men armed with machine guns will render today more effective results than a company of 150 men armed with Mausers".

"This reorganization would allow for a redistribution of existing resources. With the same or even a smaller budget and with the same number of men the country would have an army that would yield more, with greater efficiency."

Sr. Noble asks whether it would not be better to maintain the 22,000 men actually existing, well armed and well trained, and instead of applying the resources to the increase of men, to apply them to modernizing the existing army, and to increase their efficiency not in numbers but in quality.

"The country is not in a position to destine greater resources for the armed forces, therefore, the problem is to take the best possible advantage of existing resources. The accumulation of the sums of 10 million for this year, 12 for next and probably 15 in the following years, would allow for the creation of a reserve fund applicable to the constant modernization of the army."

"It is indispensable that disposable resources should be invested in a greater proportion in armament whose yield is far superior to the existing armament."

"Aviation, in whose constant development I have been interested shows daily how its appearance has altered the technique of war. Principles which seemed definitely established have disappeared when they have come in contact with this modern arm. The Ethiopian campaign would not have been possible had it not been for the formidable Italian aviation force."

"Argentina must rely in great measure on aviation, for its terrestrial and maritime defense. Fortunately, and this is undoubtedly true, the automatic arms have increased our defensive more than our offensive capacity."

Sr. Solari's remarks may be resumed as follows: "This year, we are considering our new war budget under special circumstances. The Inter-American Peace Conference recently inaugurated with the nobly inspired words of the eminent President of the United States, brings hope that we, when considering the investments which are exacted from the people, will accept his views as something that may eventually materialize."

"Our country wants and asks for peace. On the other hand it is the mandate of America."

"The country knows full well that we are not enemies of the Army. The Socialists have demonstrated their interest in the Army in so far as it represents a defensive force of the country's territorial integrity."

"We maintain that the problem set before us, rather than increase

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the existing resources, should be one of organization."

"I will quote a very respectable opinion, that of Colonel Enrique Luis Rivarola, expressed in an article on national defense, published in the Prensa of August 31, 1935, which says: "The organization of national forces in peace time constitutes one of the most difficult problems to be resolved, in as much as it is necessary to create organisms of the maximum of efficiency, capable of satisfying the conditions of modern war and their probable evolution, but always within the strictest economy, without compromising the economic equilibrium of the country or delaying its progress by imposing too heavy a load. Under these conditions the greatest difficulty consists in giving each element or material of war its real and relative values, and determining the exact proportion they should have within the aggregate of forces, in accordance also with the actual situation, particular conditions and purposes of the nation. An error of appreciation or of foresight, not only might lead the country to ruinous and badly employed expenditure, but might also bring fatal consequences which might make useless all sacrifices realized for their defense, when it is already too late to correct them. When the existence of the country is at stake, it cannot be left to cruel experience to determine then the value of the elements that can be disposed of.""

"That is the opinion of an Argentine military man which we quote without comment, and which we primarily accept and indorse."

"We consider we should take into special account, to arrive at a better and more economic organization, the experiences realized by other countries. I refer specially to the incorporation of aviation, the development of which during the last decade has been really marvelous. I need not dwell on the preponderating importance which aviation will have in the defense of this country."

"I have already pointed out, Mr. President, the mistaken aviation policy which we have been following. I do not wish to state the millions that have been spent in experiments which have not given the results we expected. We appreciate the change in policy, and hope it will reach in practise the efficiency we all hope for, and for which important funds were voted last year."

"For our part, we believe to have contributed in a certain measure to create an organic basis, to avoid the loss of effort, and that all investments should be made with the best effective results, projecting the total reorganization of the Ministry and creating the Ministry of National Defense."

"We are convinced that we will eventually arrive at that end, creating three sub-secretaryships, Army, Navy and Air, in order to insure the parallel development of these three arms, so that the country may reap the advantage of all its efforts and that all expenditure shall be carried out in the most effective manner possible."

"With reference to military pensions and retired pay, the State has to contribute with many millions. We consider that a barrier should be placed to the voluntary retirement, except in cases of illness or misconduct. The amount of pensions should be limited."

"We consider ourselves authorized to criticize, and to express our point of view regarding the projected expense, which we consider excessive."

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"Statistical data which I have in my possession illustrates and justifies our call to moderation in military expenditure and our opposition to increases and outlays which exceed the most ample budget calculations, having attained in recent times enormous sums."

REMARKS BY M.A.

The creation of the sixth army division is for the purpose of counteracting the predominating Chilean influence in the southern National Territories, which constitute what is known as Patagonia.

The zone in question is the only possible ground for Chilean expansion. Up to the present time all the frontiers formed by the fertile valleys of the Andes have been populated by Chilean settlers, and their influence has been predominant. As a preventative measure the Ministry of Agriculture, in 1935, evidently acting by suggestion of the Ministry of War, had a law passed by which no foreigner could own fiscal land within a distance of 20 leagues from the frontier. This law was evidently created to do away with the ownership of land on the Chilean frontier by citizens of that country.

Chile, possessing a very limited area of fertile land, situated to the south of Valpariso, as the northern part is all arid, is far from being able to produce enough food stuffs to supply the wants of their rapidly increasing population. She imports from this and neighboring countries all her cattle, wheat, sugar, etc.

Bounded by the Pacific on one side and the Andes on the other, it is one long stretch, the northern half of which is completely arid. Therefore, the only possible means of expansion for their increasing population is the Argentine Patagonia which she covets.

In 1934 Argentina was obliged to make representations to the Chilean Government because of the size of the Chilean Army including Carribneros, a militarized police force, which exceeded the number of men in the Argentine army. At that time Chile had occupied all the passes of the Andes with their Carribneros. The Argentine Government lodged an energetic protest against this attitude, and relations became strained until Chile decided to retire that force. This attitude of Chile's caused the Argentine War Ministry to create the 1st. Cavalry Regiment, which was immediately sent to San Martin de los Andes, in the Neuquen territory, where they were stationed under canvass for over a year until temporary barracks were built.

Now, Patagonia is to be protected by a new 6th. Division of the Army, created by increasing the number of conscripts by 12,000.

The details and location of this Division will be reported at an early date.

Sources of Information: "Diario de Sesiones" of the Chamber of Deputies.

*Lester Baker*

Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attache

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5541

Date: March 12, 1937

G-2 Report.

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ARGENTINA - Combat.

Subject: Army Finance;  
War Department Budget and Expenditures.

RECEIVED G-2 W. D. JUN 20 1940

The Argentine Minister of War has published in Boletin Militar (official publication of the Department) the estimates of the army for the coming year(1941) which will be submitted to Congress in the annual budget for all departments. These estimates call for a total expenditure of \$112,371,690 Argentine paper pesos, of which amount \$69,696,360.00 is allotted to salaries and wages, and \$42,675,330 pesos for "other expenses".

The estimate is made up as follows:

Grade	COMMISSIONED PERSONNEL		Total Year(all)
	No.	Monthly Pay(each)	
Maj.General	9	\$ 1,900	\$ 205,200.00
Brig. "	21	1,600	403,200.00
Colonel	103	1,300	1,606,800.00
Lt.Colonel	204	1,000	2,448,000.00
Major	315	800	3,024,000.00
Captain	497	600	3,578,400.00
1st. Lieut.	566	450	3,056,400.00
Lieutenant	575	400	2,760,000.00
Sub.Lieutenant	616	310	2,291,520.00
Total	2,906		\$ 19,373,520.00

Pay of Non-commissioned personnel and soldiers totalling 48,492 of which 37,000 are conscripts

Total pay of army	\$ 23,852,100.00
Other expenses, supplies, etc.	\$ 43,225,620.00
Civilian personnel	36,438,390.00
Extras, special assignments	15,087,260.00
	8,696,000.00

National Gendarmerie:

Salaries	\$ 2,687,480	
Other	6,236,940	8,924,420.00
Total for Department		\$112,371,690.00

The National Gendarmerie consists of 127 officers( 99 combatant and 28 auxiliaries) and 869 non-commissioned officers and soldiers of which number 600 are privates.

COMMENT.

This estimate for the War Department will not likely reach the Congress in the regular budget for weeks and it may be months before the budget is acted upon. As in the past several years, it may be that Congress will finally decide not to pass a new budget but continue the previous one in effect.

Source: As stated.

Original & 5 copies airmailed June 11th.

M. A. Devine, Jr., Major, G.S.,  
Military Attaché.

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 6247.

June 8, 1940.



C-2 Report

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4  
WAR DEPARTMENT  
6400

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1930 - 1936

Army Budget 1930

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I. Personnel:

1. Military

a. Existing establishment

Pay	32,798,380
Clothing	5,883,476
Subsistence	6,634,984

b. Augmentation

Pensions	23,984,000
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II. & III. Plant and Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation (including civilian pay and allowances.)	22,520,481
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2. Augmentation

a. Special laws and accords	10,532,047*
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b. Public Works allotments for military construction.	4,309,811*
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c. Allotments from secret law No. 11.266 for the purchase of armaments.	22,002,122*
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Total Argentine currency	\$128,655,301
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At mint par rate of 227.27	56,609,011
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At 1930 average rate for U.S. dollar (273.84 m/n per 100 U.S.)	46,981,924
--	------------

Note: Government budget for 1929 projected for 1930.

Sources of Information: National Budget Law

\* National Treasury Report

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1930 - 1936

Army Budget 1931I. Personnel:

## 1. Military

## a. Existing establishment

Pay	33,116,440
Clothing	4,100,000
Subsistence	2,200,000

## b. Augmentation

Allowances	7,198,620
Pensions	24,789,104

2. Civilian pay and allowance	12,977,036
-------------------------------	------------

II. & III. Plant and Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation.	16,232,592
-------------------------------	------------

## 2. Augmentation

a. Special laws and accords	4,558,063*
b. Public Works allotments for military construction.	6,378,625
c. Allotments from secret law No. 11,266 for the purchase of armaments.	7,583,794*

Total Argentine currency	\$126,124,274
--------------------------	---------------

At mint par rate of 227.27	55,594,680
----------------------------	------------

At 1931 average rate for U.S. dollar (345.50 m/n per 100 U.S.)	36,506,954
--	------------

Note: The information for this particular year is not complete owing to the process of reorganization of the army after the revolution of Sept., 1930.

Sources of Information: National Budget Law

\* National Treasury Report

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

## ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1936 - 1936

Army Expenditures 1936I. Personnel:

## 1. Military

## a. Existing establishment

Pay		32,025,626
Clothing	3,280,000**	
Subsistence	8,700,000**	

## b. Augmentation

Allowances	7,252,800**	
Pensions		23,211,740

2. Civilian pay and allowance		11,238,608
-------------------------------	--	------------

II. & III. Plant and Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation (including items ** above)		29,821,685
---	--	------------

## 2. Augmentation

a. Public Works allotments for military construction.		3,697,767 .
b. Allotments from secret law No. 11.266 for the purchase of armaments.		5,237,997*

Total Argentine currency		\$105,233,425
--------------------------	--	---------------

At mint par rate of 227.27		46,302,707
----------------------------	--	------------

At 1932 average rate for U.S. dollar (388.64 m/n per 100 U.S.)		27,108,577
--	--	------------

Sources of Information: War Ministry yearly report of expenditures to congress. "Memoria del Ministerio de Guerra"

\* National Treasury Report

\*\* National Budget Law

From: H.A. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

G-2 Report

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ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1930 - 1936

Army Expenditures 1933

I. Personnel:

1. Military

a. Existing establishment

Pay	38,274,677
-----	------------

Clothing	2,800,000**
----------	-------------

Subsistence	8,207,999**
-------------	-------------

b. Augmentation

Allowances	6,093,531**
------------	-------------

Pensions	24,290,986
----------	------------

2. Civilian pay and allowance	10,725,118
-------------------------------	------------

II. & III. Plant and Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation (including items ** above)	23,919,531
---	------------

2. Augmentation

a. Public Works allotments for military construction.	5,095,074
---	-----------

b. Allotments from secret law No. 11,266 for the purchase of armaments.	7,555,114*
---	------------

Total Argentine currency	\$109,860,500
--------------------------	---------------

At mint par rate of 227.27	48,338,620
----------------------------	------------

At 1933 average rate for U.S. dollar (323.32 m/n per 100 U.S.)	33,999,696
--	------------

Sources of Information: War Ministry yearly report of expenditures to congress. "Memoria del Ministerio de Guerra"

\* National Treasury Report

\*\* National Budget Law

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

G-2 Report

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ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1930 - 1936

Army Expenditures 1934

I. Personnel:

1. Military

a. Existing establishment

Pay 38,717,788

Clothing 2,800,000\*\*

Subsistence 7,670,000\*\*

b. Augmentation

Allowances 6,270,258\*\*

Pensions 25,508,736

2. Civilian pay and allowance 10,932,472

II. & III. Plant and Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation (including items \*\* above) 22,472,922

2. Augmentation

a. Public Works allotments for military construction. 7,976,947

b. Allotments from secret law No. 11,266 for the purchase of armaments 5,816,858\*

Total \$111,425,723  
Less Incomes and salary deductions 4,381,088

Total Argentine currency 107,044,646

At mint par rate of 227.27 47,099,644

At 1934 average official rate for U.S. dollar (339.37 m/n per 100 U.S.) 31,546,305

Sources of Information: War Ministry yearly report of expenditures to congress. "Memoria del Ministerio de Guerra".  
\* National Treasury Report  
\*\* National Budget Law

From: U.A. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

G-2 Report

6400

ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1930 - 1936

Army Expenditures 1935

I. Personnel:

1. Military

a. Existing establishment

Pay		40,825,900
Clothing	2,853,000**	
Subsistence	6,272,000**	

b. Augmentation

Allowances	6,478,020**	
Pensions		26,632,109
2. Civilian pay and allowance		11,510,413

II. & III. Plant and Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation (including items ** above)	20,570,717
---	------------

2. Augmentation

a. Public Works allotments for military construction.	8,876,837
b. Allotments from secret law No. 11.266 for the purchase of armaments. (In Treasury report not yet published)	
c. Allotment from special law No. 12.254 for the purchase of aeronautical material and armament.	7,000,000

Total	\$115,415,976
Less Incomes and salary deductions	<u>1,436,493</u>
Total Argentine currency	113,979,493
At mint par rate of 227.27	50,107,578
At 1935 average official rate for U.S. dollar (346.19 m/n per 100 U.S.)	32,923,970

Sources of Information: War Ministry yearly report of expenditures to congress.  
\*\* National Budget Law

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

G-2 Report

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ARGENTINA (Combat)

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and Expenditures 1930 - 1936

Army Budget 1936

I. Personnel:

1. Military

a. Existing establishment

Pay	34,755,740
Clothing	2,853,000
Subsistence	6,973,000

b. Augmentation

Allowances	6,478,020
Pensions	26,632,102

2. Civilian pay and allowance	11,617,856
-------------------------------	------------

II. & III. Plant and Equipment

1. Maintenance and operation	13,131,299
------------------------------	------------

2. Augmentation

a. Public Works allotments for military construction.	8,306,000
---	-----------

b. Allotment from special law No. 12,254 for the purchase of aeronautical material and armament.	7,500,000
--	-----------

Total Argentine currency	\$118,247,024
--------------------------	---------------

At mint par rate of 227.27	52,008,890
----------------------------	------------

At 1936 average <u>official</u> rate for U.S. dollar (341.33 m/n per 100 U.S.)	35,832,040
--	------------

Source of Information: National Budget Law

*Lester Baker*  
Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attaché.

From: McA. Argentina

Report No. 5445

Date: August 13, 1936

ARGENTINA (Combat)

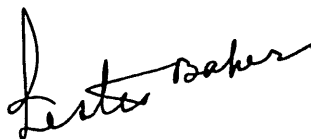
Explanatory Memorandum

Rates of Exchange Used.

1. The mint par rate established by law at 227.27 paper pesos for each gold peso, or 0.44 gold for each paper peso.

Five Argentine gold pesos equals one pound sterling at mint par value.

2. The official rate of exchange was established in 1934 by the Exchange Control Office, and is for use in the transfer of government funds.



Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attache



G-2 Report

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6400

ARGENTINA - Combat.

Subject: Army Finance

(a) Military Budget and expenditures 1930 - 1936

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. OCT 3 1936

Attached hereto is Table II, Budgetary Appropriations Period 1930 to 1936, complimentary to reports numbers 5445 and 5446, index 6400 and 7400.

All the information available on this subject is presented in such form that a further breakdown is not possible.

Conversion into United States currency has been made up to 1933 at the average yearly rate of exchange, and from 1933 at the average official rate (reference remarks in report number 5445).

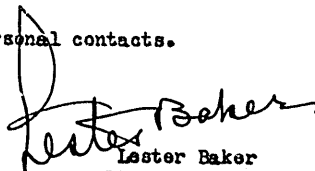
Both in the Army and Navy the conscript system is applied. The monthly pay of conscripts is 5 pesos. The period of duty for those serving in the Army is one year and for those serving in the Navy two years. Other than its conscripted troops the Army has one regiment of enlisted men, "Regimiento de Gendarmeria de Linea", (reported to consist of 450 men), the pay being 90 pesos a month per man.

Housing facilities for troops are government built and maintained. The only billiting done is during the period of maneuvers (once a year) when officers and occasionally troops are billeted in the zones in which the maneuvers take place.

For the first time the War Department has adopted a standard type of uniform for all troops. The climate is moderate enough to necessitate only one uniform for all seasons, worn with a coat in winter.

The majority of war materials are imported from foreign countries. The Government has an arsenal at San Lorenzo, Province of Santa Fe, in which is produced gun powder, rifle and small arm munitions. They also have under construction at Riachuelo (Buenos Aires) a new plant for producing, rolling and laminating steel intended for the manufacture of rifles, small arms and armor plate, from raw materials produced in this country. The Navy has an arsenal in Zarate, Province of Buenos Aires, where they produce ammunition for rifles and small arms.

Source of Information: Personal contacts.



Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attache

G-2 Report

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ARGENTINA - Combat

Subject: War Department Budget and Expenditures.

The Argentine War Department Budget for 1937.

The War Department Budget for the 1937 fiscal year, which is concurrent with the calendar year, as approved by Congress amounts to \$86,808,915.00 paper pesos (\$38,195,922 USCy at mint par rate).

This amount is an increase over last years budget of \$10,500,000 paper pesos (\$4,620,000 USCy at mint par rate). Allotments to the War Department from Public Works appropriations have also been increased 31.8%. The increases mentioned do not take care of any expenditure for the acquisition of new armaments, for that comes from the amount authorized by a secret law No. 11.266.

The 1937 Army Budget, broken down as requested in G-2/2001-198, July 15, 1936, is as follows.

I. Personnel:

1. Military

	Arg. m/n	USCy at mint average official par rate	USCy. at rate of 1936
a. Existing establishment:			
1. Pay -----	38,052,960	16,743,302	11,175,284
2. Clothing -----	5,564,555	2,448,404	1,634,181
3. Subsistence -----	10,046,080	4,420,275	2,950,304
b. Augmentation:			
1. Allowances -----	6,786,420	2,986,025	1,993,017
2. Military pensions from budget of Annuities, Pensions & Retired Allowances -----	10,100,000	4,444,000	2,996,139
3. Military retired pay from budget of Annuities, Pensions & Retired Allowance- -----	17,800,000	7,832,000	5,227,453

2. Civilian, Direct:

a. Pay and allowances -----	12,154,260	5,347,874	3,569,429
(Pay ----- 6,185,460)			
(Allowances -- 5,968,800)			

II. Plant:

1. Maintenance and operation -----	3,447,428	1,516,869	1,012,431
------------------------------------	-----------	-----------	-----------

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5537

Date: March 11, 1937

## G-2 Report

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Arg. m/n	USCy at mint par rate	USCy. at average official rate of 1936
----------	-----------------------------	--

## 2. Augmentation

a. Public Works allotments  
for military construction -- 11,105,000 4,886,200 3,261,284

## III. Equipment:

1. Maintenance and operation ---- 10,757,212 4,733,173 3,159,147

## 2. Augmentation

a. The amounts spent on the acquisition of new armaments under secret law No. 11.266 can not be reported at this time as the only source of information is the National Treasury Report which is not published until the end of the year.

b. Between 14 & 15 million pesos are available under Special law No. 12.254 for the acquisition of aeronautical material and armaments, as very little of the original 22 million pesos appropriated has been spent

---

Total War Department Budget ----- 36,808,915 38,195,922 25,493,793

Total War Department Budget  
plus allotments from other  
Governmental departments.----- 125,813,915 55,358,122 36,978,669

---

NOTES:

1. War Department budget includes Military Aviation which is an organic part of the Army.
2. The War Department budget is 8.8% of the total National Budget.
3. The War Department budget is 59.6% of the total National Defense Budget.
4. The War Department budget plus allotments to it from other governmental departments is 12.7% of the total National Budget.
5. The War Department budget plus allotments to it from other governmental departments is 61.4% of the total National Defense Budget, including allotments to it from other governmental departments.

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5537

Date: March 11, 1937

G-2 Report

6400-a

Sources: "Boletin Oficial" & "Diario de Sesiones" of  
the Chamber of Deputies.

*Lester Baker*

Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attache

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5537

Date: March 11, 1937

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OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF  
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G-2 Report

ARGENTINA - Combat

Subject: Maneuvers.

The 1936 Argentine Army Maneuvers.

1. Object and General Arrangements:

The last Argentine Army maneuvers were held in 1927, and the Government decided in 1935 to authorize Army Maneuvers in 1936. Financial considerations however limited the number of personnel to a grand total of 17,000. Foreign policy precluded the holding of maneuvers adjacent to any particular land frontier from which a future attack may be expected. This fact and railway communications indicated the Province of Cordoba, though this area was in some other respects unsuitable for maneuvers. The object of the maneuvers as stated by the Minister of War was mainly to exercise the higher Commands in the handling of large bodies of troops and to ascertain the suitability of Motorized Forces.

2. Dates and Programme:

In order to hold the maneuvers during the period 23rd to 29th of October, 1936, it was necessary to begin the concentration of troops on the 15th of October. All except the troops permanently stationed in the Cordoba province were transported by rail to the maneuver area. The plan for these railway movements was prepared by the General Staff and was completed as per programme, and maneuvers began on the 23rd of October, terminating on the 29th. The troops were then rested for two days and paraded before the President on the 2nd of November. On the following day the dispersal of troops was commenced and units returned to their home stations by rail.

3. Area of Maneuvers:

For reasons already stated in paragraph 1, the Ministry of War chose an area in the Province of Cordoba and San Luis. The maneuver area was a strip of country approximately 120 by 40 kilometers, bounded by Villa Mercedes, Achiras, Rio Cuarto, Mackenna, and Justo Daract. This area of country is arid and very little cultivated owing to the lack of rain and water supply. The roads in the area are few and not metalled. There are also many dry river beds. Otherwise the country is in general open and rolling. The area selected is ideal for Cavalry and good for Motorized Forces during dry weather which prevails most of the year in this Province. Owing to lack of trees and vegetation generally the country is also ideal for air observation. On the other hand lack of water and scarcity of rail and road communication renders the territory a difficult one in which to maintain large military forces.

4. Direction and Control of Maneuvers:

Though the Minister of War, General Pertine, attended and closely followed the maneuvers he placed the direction in the hands of the Commanding General of the Army, General Camilo Idoate. General Abraham Quiroga, the Chief of Staff, acted as sub-director. The directing staff kept constant touch with the situation through the medium of the Chief Umpire and his staff of umpires allotted to the opposing forces.

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5505

Date: January 12, 1937



El Director General de las grandes maniobras, General de División don Camilo Idoate y el jefe del Estado Mayor, General de División don Abraham Quiroga.

5. Press and Foreign Attaches:

Press representatives of all the leading papers of Buenos Aires attended the maneuvers throughout, and appeared to be given every facility for following the course of operations. Consequently, the daily papers in Buenos Aires devoted much space to photographs, and daily reports of the Army Maneuvers, which aroused public interest generally. For the first time the Government invited foreign Military Attaches, also the British and Italian Air Attaches, to attend the maneuvers. These officers travelled and lived in the special train used by the Minister of War and his staff. The Minister of War having been a Military Attache appreciated the difficulties of foreign attaches and personally assured that these officers were given every facility to follow closely the army exercises.

6. Plan of Operations:

The maneuvers were based on the general idea of the opening phase of a war between Eastland and Westland, having a frontier running approximately north and south through the Cordoba Hills. Westland having mobilized first invaded Eastland with a mobile force of cavalry aided by a Motorized Unit. This force was composed of about 7,500 mounted troops. To oppose this force Eastland dispatched an Infantry Division of about 9,000 troops strongly supported by Artillery.

The situation at the beginning of maneuvers was roughly as follows: Eastland (Blue) had just completed detraining its Infantry Division at Rio Cuarto. The orders for this force were to drive back Westland (Red) Mobile Force and join the main battle in the south as soon as possible. On that date Westland (Red) Mobile Force was concentrated at Villa Mercedes, 120 kilometers to the west. The object of Red Force was to engage and delay the advance of the Blue Infantry Division.

(a) First Phase:

While the Blue Infantry Division moved slowly forward to the west, the Red Mobile Force advanced rapidly north-east towards Achiras. The Red Cavalry drove in the advanced guard screening the Blue force. Both the opposing forces were given a small number of aeroplanes for reconnaissance and artillery cooperation. The fighting and bombing aircraft of both sides were kept under the control of Red and Blue G.H.Q.s., and were not much in evidence.

(b) Second Phase:

On the 27th of October the Red Cavalry encountered and was held by the Blue Infantry Division. On account of the threat of the Red Motorized Force, Blue spread his Division over a very wide front making it impossible to deliver a concentrated attack on that date. The Red Motorized Battalion made a wide encircling movement round the north flank of Blue and effected a surprise attack. This battalion was, however, engaged and driven back by Blue's superior force of infantry, strongly supported by artillery. It is of interest to note that the Motorized Battalion was some hours late in delivering its attack because it was delayed in crossing several dry and sandy river beds.

## (c) Third Phase:

On the 28th of October the Blue concentrated their superior force of infantry and artillery south of Achiras and by frontal attack compelled Red Cavalry to retire. The Cavalry occupied a very strong position on high ground maintaining its Motorized Battalion in reserve most of the day. However, when hard pressed the Red force employed their Motorized Battalion in support of their Cavalry. A small force of Red Cavalry encircled Blue force and successfully attacked from the rear Blue Artillery. This attack put out of action a Blue battery and disorganized the artillery attack for a short period. It was generally considered that this daring cavalry attack could not have been successful if the Blues had properly employed their reconnaissance air planes which were hardly seen throughout the day.

## (d) Fourth Phase:

On the night 28th-29th of October the Red Mobile Force retired to take up a new defence position. During the same night Blue Infantry and Artillery moved forward into positions of readiness to attack at dawn on the 29th. Heavy rain fell throughout the night and at dawn low clouds and mist prevented cooperation of aircraft. However, the heavy rain did not delay the advance of the Blue Infantry or Artillery which attacked at day break. Blue Infantry attacked well prepared positions by frontal attack and were judged to have succeeded in forcing the Red Infantry to retire. The Red Motorized Battalion held a strong position on the left flank but was engaged by superior forces of infantry and concentrated artillery. It was therefore judged by the umpires that the Motorized Battalion was put out of action during this attack.

## 7. Critique:

From statements made at the conference held at the conclusion of the operations and from numerous conversations with others, the following conclusions appeared to be arrived at. It was considered that the Blue Infantry Division had achieved its object by driving back the Red Mobile Force and so protecting the right flank of the main Blue Army. Moreover, the Directing Staff considered that the Blue Division would have been in time to join in the main battle within the time allotted. On the other hand the Director of Maneuvers stated that Red Mobile Force had achieved its object in delaying the Blue Division for several days by threatening the right flank of the Blue Army. Both the opposing Commanders were criticised for not carrying out more reconnaissance during the approach march on the first day of operations. Moreover, it was stated that the Red Force should have employed its Motorized Battalion as a covering force in advance of its Cavalry. The Motorized Unit was also criticised for using the same roads as the Cavalry, thus impeding their advance at the beginning of operations.

The Minister of War informed the Military Attache that he was satisfied with the work done by the Motorized Battalion and said he was pleased with the Chevrolet and British Thornycroft (12 of each make) motor trucks used by this force. The Minister also said that the maneuvers had brought out the necessity for an increase in the aircraft allotted for cooperation with the field army.

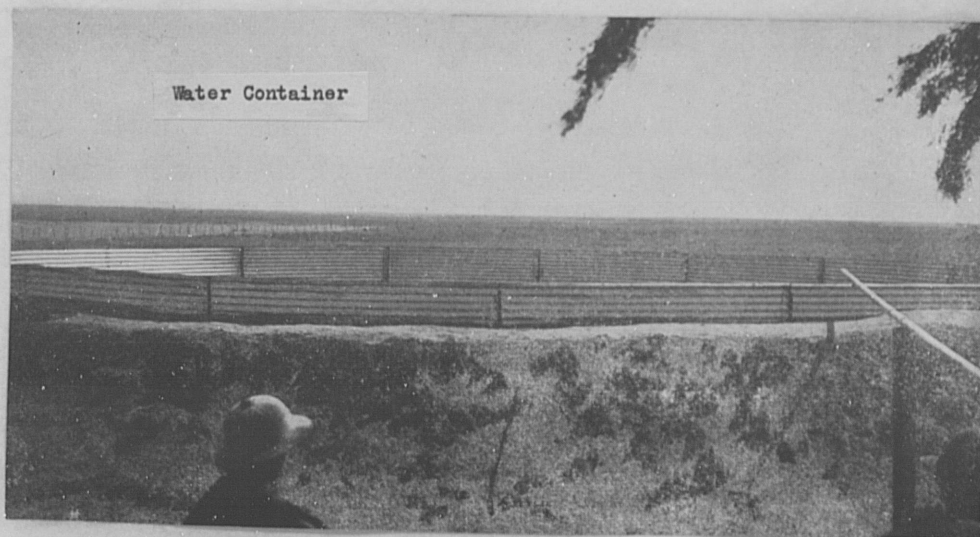


8. Weather:

During the first three days of the maneuvers the weather was fine and dry. There having been no rain for seven months the movements of troops caused heavy clouds of thick dust to encircle every movement on the ground. During this period there was also a strong wind which added to the general discomfort of all ground forces. During the last 24 hours of the maneuvers heavy rains fell but owing to the sandy and desertlike nature of the country water did not accumulate unduly on the surface. Moreover, owing to the large proportion of sand the roads in general did not become unusable to wheeled transport.

9. Water Supply:

The maneuver area is practically devoid of water supply and it was necessary for the Army to bore over 50 wells and install an equal number of large water containers. These containers consisted of tanks made from corrugated iron supported by earth revetments and were said to be of Italian design. There appeared to be no shortage of water among the troops or headquarters of units.

10. Health and Discipline of Troops:

Though most of the troops were young conscripts of about 20 years of age and of only 9 months service, they appeared to be in excellent health. Two military hospitals were established under canvas in the maneuver area, and between the 22nd and the 29th less than 70 soldiers had been admitted as patients. In spite of several days of marching in dense dust and then heavy rain the troops as a whole appeared to be fit and under good discipline at the close of operations. The Military Attache spent several days with all types of units and the impression gained was one of good discipline both in marching and when deployed for an attack. On one occasion the writer saw a Blue Infantry Battalion advance and surround a hill very strongly held by Red machine guns and other infantry. Had there been an umpire

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present that attack would undoubtedly have been ruled as having been repulsed with heavy casualties. However, when the umpire appeared and gave the decision wrongly against the Red defending force, the decision was accepted without protest by the junior officers, N.C.Os., and men who would under war conditions have been victorious. The officers merely told their men that they had "died with glory", and the decision was accepted calmly.



#### 11. Cavalry:

The Cavalry appeared to be very well mounted though it lost a number of horses through sickness and accident: 17 died and 146 were sick in the first week. The Commanders of the Cavalry were imbued with the right idea and showed considerable enterprise in exploiting their mobility against the enemy Infantry and Artillery, but gave too little care to their animals. The general opinion was that a large proportion of Cavalry will for many years be retained in Argentina in spite of the mechanization in European Armies.



From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5505

Date: January 12, 1937

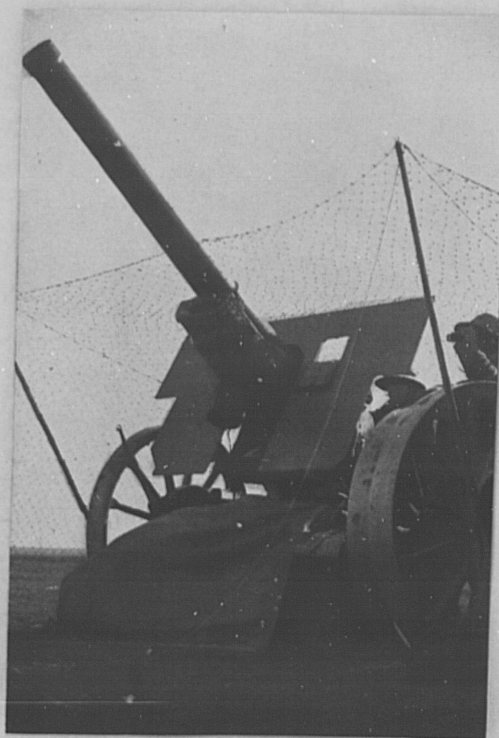


G-2 Report

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12. Artillery:

The bulk of this arm was composed of Horse Artillery armed with 75 mm. Krup guns of pre-war vintage.

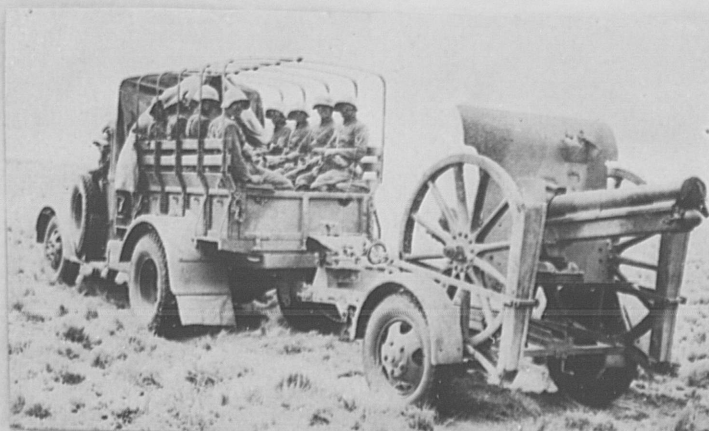


\* The Medium Artillery was armed with 105 mm. Schneider guns recently purchased by the Army.

From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5505

Date: January 12, 1937



The only motorized battalion had two 75 mm. guns which were transported on trailers towed behind motor vehicles.

The medium Artillery Brigade was equipped with ground wireless stations for communication with aircraft. During the maneuvers there were insufficient aircraft detailed for effective observation of artillery fire. Moreover neither the Artillery nor Air Force Officers appreciated the value of this form of directing artillery fire. This is believed to be due to the lack of suitable aircraft and up-to-date wireless equipment, defects which were very evident during the recent maneuvers.





13. Infantry:

All Infantry wore steel helmets of Swiss make.



The troops also carried gas masks and a full pack. These packs were carried not only during the approach march, but also throughout the fire-fight and the charge, instead of being handed over to regimental transport.



On the whole the Infantry appeared to employ orthodox tactics in attacking over open country. The troops also took advantage of what little cover was available and appeared to be well led.

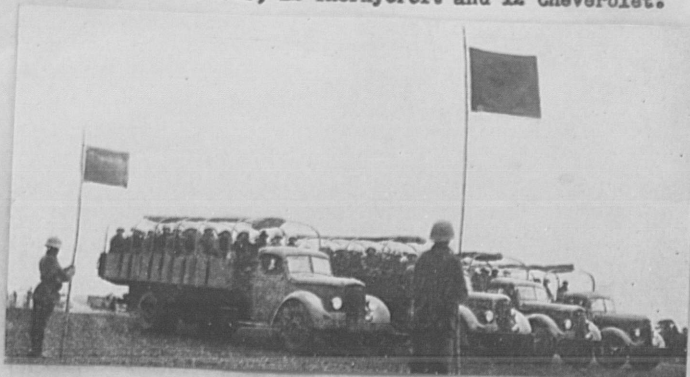
From: M.A. Argentina

Report No. 5505

Date: January 12, 1937

#### 14. Motorized Battalion:

This experimental unit was formed by the Infantry School in Buenos Aires especially for trial during maneuvers. The Battalion's strength was approximately 600 men and the rifle companies were transported in about 25 open motor trucks, 12 Thornycroft and 12 Cheverolet.



On the move the Battalion occupied a road space of 5 kilometers. The transport also included 18 motorcycles and about 15 various motor vehicles for supplies, ammunition, etc. Two 75 mm. motorized field guns were included in the Battalion and machine guns of the Maxim type were used for anti-aircraft defence.

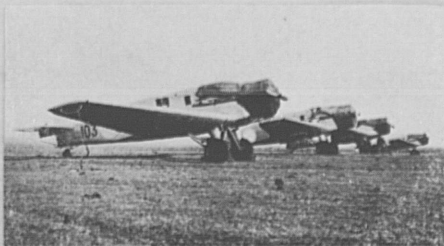


This column was not provided with radio communication but had a telephone section for laying field telephones. The Commander of the Battalion, an Infantry Major, said that he was very satisfied with the performance of both the British and American trucks, which had not been tested before maneuvers owing to lack of time. (The British Thornycroft lorries were received in September 1936, and the American Cheverolets in October, 1936.) The Minister of War also informed the Military Attache that he was very satisfied and that he considered the Argentine Army needed more motorization, especially to support the gavalry. Nevertheless the Minister and his Staff considered Argentine Cavalry not likely to be reorganized for many years.



15. Aviation:

Though 56 aeroplanes were concentrated to take part in the maneuvers, the scheme of operations was not suitable for the employment of half that number. The opposing forces were allotted only a few aircraft for reconnaissance and artillery cooperation. In fact, there was little scope for the employment of fighters and bombers with such small ground forces operating in the proximity of the two opposing



main armies. However, at the beginning of the maneuvers the Directing Staff allowed fighter patrols to interfere with observation aircraft. During the second day of the maneuvers there was a fatal "crash" in which two young officers were killed when flying a Prototipo aeroplane Ae.M.Oe.1 built at the Cordoba Factory. The aeroplane became out of

control at a low altitude and crashed near some troops immediately bursting into flames. Though the crash may not have been due to any mechanical defect the incident increased the existing unpopularity of the Government constructed aeroplanes. The prevailing clouds of dust interfered with air reconnaissance which was effected from too great a height: about 5000 feet, generally.

16. Supply Service:

The supply system appeared to be well organized from rail-head to the fighting troops. The rations were ample and of the best quality. The supply services relied mainly on motor transport, and the fighting units used horse-drawn transport. There were five fixed Supply Depots and twelve mobile Supply Sections in the maneuvers.

17. Anti-Aircraft Defence, Gas and Smoke:

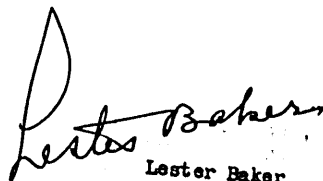
On one or two special occasions small smoke clouds were used, presumably to screen advancing Infantry. Gas masks were only worn for special demonstration to the press, but anti-aircraft defence seemed to be taken more seriously. No anti-aircraft guns were seen during the maneuvers, but heavy Maxim machine guns were mounted and employed for this purpose. The Cavalry and Artillery when in action did not disperse their horses sufficiently to guard against aerial attack. In general there was little serious attention to anti-aircraft defence among all arms.

18. Final Conclusions:

The Argentine troops are excellent material, well trained, and of good discipline. The higher command appears to lack field experience and is theoretical in its methods. The staff work of the General Staff and Administrative Services appears to be satisfactory. The tactics are on the whole quite orthodox and similar to European practice, with a strong German influence. The Cavalry is commanded and handled with imagination and energy. The Infantry tactics appear to be unimaginative and consist mainly of frontal attacks, relying on weight of numbers to succeed. The tactics employed by the Artillery appear to be orthodox but unenterprising. On one side the Artillery was sited with great precaution and on the other side the batteries were on occasion unduly exposed to enemy fire. Two instances were seen of batteries being placed in exposed positions when good covered positions were readily available. The tactics employed by the Commander of the Motorized Force were most enterprising and successful. The higher Commanders did not, however, display the same understanding or initiative in the handling of the available Air Force.

To sum up, the Military Attache gained the impression that the Argentine Army is better trained and better handled than the Brazilian Army was from 1927 to 1931, when the Military Attache was on duty in That country. The officers and men in the Argentine Army are better educated, more alert, and of better class.

Source of Information: Personal Contacts.

  
Lester Baker  
Lt. Col., Inf.  
Military Attache



AIR MAIL

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IN SERVICE JOURNALS.

10 1938 OFFICE CHIEF OF  
MIL. INTL. DIV.

5-1 2001-2011

DEPARTMENT

G-2 Report

5900-c

ARGENTINA - Combat

Subject: Views on Preparedness at Independence  
Banquet.

One of the principal features of the annual celebration of Argentina's declaration of Independence is the banquet of the officers of the Army and the Navy, at which the President of the Republic is always the guest of honour, as the constitutional commander-in-chief of the armed forces of the Nation. This banquet takes place traditionally just before the Ninth of July, under the auspices of the "Centro Naval" and the "Circulo Militar" whose respective Presidents are the hosts of the evening. The banquet of this year was well up to the high standard set in recent years, and it revealed as always, the lofty spirit of patriotism and comradeship which is characteristic of the Argentine Army and Navy. Two of the speeches of the evening caused considerable interest by virtue of their references to Argentina vis-a-vis the present precarious world situation. Both Admiral Carlos G. Daireaux, President of the "Centro Naval", and the President of the Republic in speaking made it very plain that they cherished no illusions about the immunity of any unprepared country from attack and spoliation in the event of a war between the principal powers. In this connection Admiral Daireaux spoke to the following effect:--

"The conditions which today govern relations between peoples are certainly not the most propitious for contemplating any diminution of the importance of the mission of the armed forces. Without sounding a note of alarm, we cannot disguise from ourselves the fact that across the seas people are living hours of unrest, of anxiety and even moments of anguish, under the constant threat of a tragical ending, apparently inevitable. In the meantime, in this land of promise, surrounded by brother-peoples to whom we are bound by a policy wise, generous and altruistic, we continue to be confident that nothing will ever disturb the sweet tranquility of the national life, all motives of conflict with our neighbours having been removed for ever. But, do we know perchance, whether the terrible struggle which may break out at any moment will be confined to a distance zone? Or whether it will spread to wherever in the world are found the elements indispensable for continuing the gigantic struggle: raw materials, foodstuffs, fuel, which pacific countries will be compelled to hand over to whoever demands them unless they are prepared to defend by force of arms the integrity of their sovereignty."

Proceeding, Admiral Daireaux said:--

"We all know that the old ideas regarding the rights of peoples, within and beyond their frontiers, have ceased to be an evangel for belligerents, and that even in time of peace, the frontiers of weak nations are trampled under foot with impunity.

"Sovereignty is a reality only for powerful countries; recent occurrences fully confirm this assertion, and the most elementary prudence warns us that the possession of goods coveted by nations at war may signify a danger unless there exist the forces adequate for their effective defence."

"Meditating calmly on the obligations which the ample concept of sovereignty creates, and the imperative necessity of maintaining Argentine prestige in America intact, we will very quickly realise that the sea and land forces which the Nation counts upon to face the contingencies which might derive from an armed conflict between the principal world powers, are still very exiguous, and above all, let us remember that negligence in times of peace has to be paid for by the sacrifice of many lives when, unhappily, war cannot be avoided."

From: M/A Argentina

Report No. 5835

July 30, 1938

G-2 Report

5900-c

President Ortiz said in the course of his speech:--

"We do not know whether God in his inscrutable design has chosen the Argentine Republic once again to be the paladin of the justice and the liberty of America. You are not unaware that the situation of the world beyond our Continent is obscure and uncertain. The Argentine Republic cannot live unprepared and confiding in an international atmosphere charged with unconfessable violence and hostile intentions. She must be perfectly prepared if, unhappily, the evil days announced should arrive. Such is the gigantic and immediate task which will call for all your intelligence, your spirit, your capacity for work and your initiative. The silent heroism of the barracks and of manoeuvres, of the cabinet of investigations, of the experimental laboratory, of the military factories and workshops. From the complete training of the soldier, to the national organization of war industries, we must achieve a high degree of military perfection in order to be able to face the future confident in our strength and security. The moral greatness and the economic potency of a people must be conditioned to its defensive capacity. That is the only way of neutralising ambitions and of imposing the respect which makes possible the survival of civilization and liberty".

Source: Press

*Lester Baker*

Lester Baker, Col. Inf.,  
Military Attaché

Original & 4 copies airmailed Aug. 2nd.  
Confirmation copy by steamer Aug. 6th.

From M/A Argentina

Report No. 5835

July 30, 1938

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Enclosures

Record Section File No.

Copy No. 6-1

For Record Section Only

# MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

## WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.

Country Reported On

Subject National Defense - General

I. G. No. 5900.

Source and Degree of Reliability:

As stated.

Summarization of Report

When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

Following is the gist of a recent conversation with General Von der Becke, commanding the 4th Division and the 4th Military Region (Córdoba) 700 kilometers N.W. of Buenos Aires. The General was one of a group photographed giving the Nazi salute with the German Ambassador during a Nazi Party rally in Buenos Aires in 1939 (previously reported by confidential dispatch #6440, Nov. 29, 1940), is married to the sister of the wife of General Molina - arch-Nazi, is of German descent, was educated in Germany as were his two brothers, and has spent some years of his military service in Berlin.

He stated that the whole world is badly confused at this time and that the economic and political situation in Argentina is critical. He said that conditions here would become increasingly worse within the next few months if Argentina did not have the economic help of the United States - that is through the purchase of beef, wool and maize.

He then advanced the threadbare argument that Argentina is buying automobiles and all machinery, etc., from the United States and that we are taking practically no Argentine products in exchange. I informed him directly and to the point that he had been misinformed. He was surprised and skeptical when told that the United States is second only to England in purchases from Argentina.

Turning to events of the present war in Europe, he stated that it was fantastic to assume that any European country would attempt an invasion, or subjugation, of Argentina, or attempt to sieze the country with transported armies or forces now within it. He recalled that the British had attempted an invasion at La Plata in 1806 but had never reached Buenos Aires. The General stated it was all so fantastic and just manufactured English propaganda, and that the General Staff had not even studied defense measures against possible landings or uprising and had no war plans. This latter fact was

G-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6,  
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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6484 Date January 24, 1941.  
This line to appear on all succeeding pages

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

G-2 Report.

5900.

confirmed by the Argentine delegates during the recent Army-Navy conversations. He said it is not the policy of the Argentine army to see danger where no danger exists, and also that the Argentines are a peaceful people and do not like to be worried by such ideas.

I told the General that we Americans are peaceful people like the Argentines but we could not close our eyes in the face of facts. Our army has an estimate of the situation which considered what it would be possible for the enemy to do, and that if some day an invasion developed or an insurrection broke out, and the President called for the army's plans to meet the same, it would be an unhappy situation for all concerned if the army had not thought about this matter and made adequate plans.

I told the General that the coast of the province of Buenos Aires reminded me of Norway, with its fine harbors at Buenos Aires, La Plata, Mar del Plata and Bahia Blanca; with its road and railroad net converging on Buenos Aires; how the weak hill mass Olavarria-Balcarce could be turned from all points of the compass; that, as he knew, the only defensive position west of Buenos Aires was his district (Córdoba) 700 kilometers by air line from the coast. (A study of this district will shortly be forwarded to the War Department).

To summarize: the General stated that they would mine all the harbors, but did not know how many or what type of mines they had. He did not know whether they had suitable boats to protect the mine fields and doubted that they could spare and emplace artillery to protect same; he said the channels are narrow and shallow and that Argentina contemplated removing all channel lights in the event of an invasion.

He excused the invasion of Norway, saying that the Germans had to seize it for strategic reasons and intended to restore its freedom after the war, to reconstruct France as a free and independent nation, but as regards Poland, Czechoslovakia, Holland and Belgium, they were a different proposition.

I told him of conversations with Colonel Trotz (commanding the Presidential bodyguard) about the vulnerability of Buenos Aires to air attack. The General stated that the only Powers possessing aircraft carriers were the United States, England, Japan and France. When reminded of the Dakar-Brazil route he evidenced great interest and concern and asked under what conditions an invader might want to bomb Argentina - a question which was readily answered and to his complete satisfaction by a recitation of current history.

In brief: he asked me if our War Department had any knowledge of German or Italian plans against Argentina, whether motorized and mechanized forces could operate in Argentina, methods to combat same; how the cavalry should be modernized, what changes should be made in the divisional artillery, what reorganization was required for the infantry, what number of mortars should be added, should the infantry be motorized, should the medium and heavy artillery be grouped under the army (corps) and numerous other questions.

He stated frankly that Argentina is a poor country, lacks ammunition to fire the material that they have and that their only hope of assistance in the event of trouble lay in the United States. He stated that it was his personal idea that Europe should be for Europeans and America for Americans as enunciated in the Monroe Doctrine.

From M.A. Argentina.

Report No. 6484.

January 24, 1941.

G-2 Report.

5900.

As I was leaving, he placed his arm around my shoulders and said:  
"The truth is that Argentina is a second-rate Power". I made no reply,  
so he repeated the statement.

- - - - -

COMMENT.

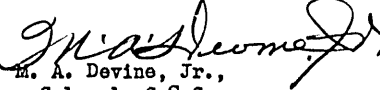
These conversations took place over a period of two days and have been briefed as far as possible. The atmosphere was most friendly at all times, in fact General Von der Becke asked me to bring my wife to Córdoba and to spend some time with him. He apologized for the appearance of his troops (conscripts reporting this month) who as yet are not uniformed, stated that he was in thorough agreement with what I had said, extended every courtesy to the extent of assigning an aide, which is seldom done.

His conversations were of interest because they mirror the sentiments, ideas and feelings of the German-educated Argentine army officer whose arguments always follow a definite line and are generally based on false premises and misinformation.

It is quite a concession for an Argentine to admit that Argentina is a second-rate country, and that the Monroe Doctrine is a wise instrument of American politics.

I feel confident that if it is the desire of the United States to have Argentina with us during the present war that well-timed but small concessions, tact, and an understanding of their way of thinking will bring results.

They are a sorely troubled, disorganized people who at this time need tactful guidance along the right road of thinking.

  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Colonel, C.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Jan. 24th.

G-2 Report.

6-1 2001-202

AUG 2 6,010-a

RESTRICTED

ARGENTINA - Combat.

Subject: Military Establishment;  
(4) Gendarme Organization.

RECEIVED G/2 W.D. JUL 30 1940

The National Gendarmerie was created by the law of August 29, 1938, and according to Article 60 of this statute the total organization of 996 officers and men should be completed within three years of that date. In response to repeated requests from the residents of the national territories for the immediate establishment of forces to combat outlaws of various categories in these sparsely-settled areas the Director General has done his best to speed up the creation of the force. Although up to the present only a part of the forces destined to be assigned to the territories of Chaco, Formosa and Misiones has been organized, the work done has been of singular importance in shaping up the organization in view of the difficulties that had to be surmounted in recruiting, instructing, equipping and quartering these troops.

The General Secretary - corresponding to Adjutant General in the United States - working under the Director General, who ranks as a Brigadier General in the regular forces, took over the study and preparation of the organization and is the liaison officer between the commanding officer and the various subordinate officers - sub-inspectors, squadron commanders, etc.

Selection of the personnel has been slow because of the strict qualifications for the men to compose this force. Only those of the best character and antecedents as well as of high physical standards have been accepted. During the past year these picked troops have received military instruction, specializing in marksmanship. The officers, in addition to military instruction, have taken a course in penal law to equip them for duty as military police.

The experience of the first contingent of Gendarmes sent to the Territory of the Chaco in April 1939 showed the necessity of creating a non-uniformed investigating body. This corps was formed of ex-detectives and investigators from the police force of the Federal Capital. This force has a present strength of sixteen men, and will be increased as necessity arises.

FIRST DIVISION. This division of the organization is in charge of forming units and sub-units, designating the squadrons to be assigned to the Territories, planning the occupation of the military zone of Las Lomas in Formosa, drawing up disciplinary regulations, compiling the manual of the Gendarme, and preparing the program of military police instruction for commissioned, non-commissioned and enlisted personnel.

SECOND DIVISION. This has to do with construction of barracks and social welfare of the personnel. The ultimate cost of the projected barracks is estimated at \$40,000,000 Argentine pesos - about \$16,000,000 U.S. currency at normal exchange - and these barracks will not only quarter troops but their families as well. They will form the nuclei of small towns with a view to future colonization of the frontier regions. In social welfare, which includes betterment of conditions under which the settlers in

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 6289.

- 1 -

July 19, 1940.

G-2 Report.

6,010-a

the Territories live, the Gendarmerie has established medical aid which includes venereal consulting centers, dentistry, first aid stations, circulating libraries and several radio stations.

On April 21st of last year(1939) the first contingent of Gendarmes left for station at Sáenz Peña(Chaco Territory). This contingent consisted of one squadron which numbered 100 men. In December of the same year a squadron was sent to Concepción de la Sierra in Misiones Territory, and the first contingent went to Las Lomitas in Formosa on December 30th.

It is intended that the gendarme troops assigned to the center and southern zones - Rio Negro and Chubut - will leave for their posts before the end of September 1940. The incorporation of the full complement of troops has suffered some delay owing to the rigid selection and the term of military police instruction which is necessary for these troops before they can take up their duties which comprise both military and civil functions.

As provided by the law of organization, the Gendarmerie has the following strength:

Officers	99
Civilians(auxiliary services with officer rank)	28
Warrant Officers	235
Civilians(nurses, storekeepers with W.O. rank)	34
Gendarmes enlisted	600
	996

The total yearly budget is \$8,924.420.00 Argentine pesos.

COMMENT.

The Law which created the Gendarmerie provides that until these forces are completely established they will receive orders from the Ministry of War. Once the force is organized and distributed the supervision will pass to the Ministry of Interior as a civil military police with a view of ultimately increasing their duties as a Federal Police Force with jurisdiction throughout the Republic.

At present the jurisdiction of the State Police(State Gendarmerie) is limited to that particular state, functions under orders of the governor exactly as our state police functions. If a criminal crosses the state border this force is without jurisdiction and must depend upon the cooperation and assistance of the police of the adjoining state, looking toward the apprehension of the criminal and his return.

The Federal Government has in view the eventual establishment of a force similar to our Bureau of Federal Investigation, using the National Gendarmerie as a nucleus.

Source: Annual Report of Minister of War;  
Personal contacts.

*M. A. Devine, Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Major, G. S.,  
Military Attaché.

Original & 5 copies airmailed July 19th.

Classification
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Enclosures
Record Section File No.
Copy No. 1
For Record Section Only

# **MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION** **WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

## **MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.**

Subject New Gendarme Units  
Brief Descriptive Title

I.G. No. 6010.

Source and Degree of Reliability:  
**Official.**

Summarization of Report  
When Required

Ref. G-2 Rept. No. 6289, I.G. 6010-a(old) July 19, 1940.

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

On September 21, 1940, a Gendarme contingent of 7 officers, 130 men and 20 non-commissioned personnel of the auxiliary services left for the Territory of Misiones where they will be assigned to posts at Eldorado, Monte Carlo, Puerto Rico and Santo Pipo.

With the arrival of this contingent there will then be stationed in Chaco, Formosa and Misiones territories seven "squadrons" to care for the most pressing needs of the northern territories.

The Gendarme Director General is turning attention to the southern territories - loosely called Patagonia - and during October gendarme inspectors and sub-inspectors will go to the territories of Santa Cruz and Chubut to locate posts. It is stated that a total of 500 officers and men will be provided at strategic points to give police protection to the inhabitants of the sparsely-settled regions.

### **COMMENTS.**

The additional information furnished above is believed to cover request in Comments and Suggestions on Reports dated August 14, 1940.

Credit for the organization of the Gendarmes goes to Brigadier General Manuel M. Calderon who directed the Nazi investigations made by the gendarmes in the territory of Misiones when the regular police failed to find evidence of subversive activities.

When the shake-up of the Cabinet came recently, General Calderon was replaced by Colonel Carlos Kelso. The latter is a cavalryman who since the inauguration of President Ortiz two and a half years ago has been chief of the Military Household of the president. Prior to that detail, he commanded the Cavalry Regiment "San Martin Grenadiers" which is the bodyguard of the Argentine president.

*M. A. Devine, Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Major, G. S.,  
Military Attache.

All copies airmailed Sept. 25th.

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6350 Date September 23, 1940.  
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Record Section File No.

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**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION**  
**WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

**MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina**

Country Reported On

Subject New Gendarme Units

Brief Descriptive Title

I.C. No. 6010

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Personal contacts; reliable.

Summarization of Report

When Required

Ref. Comments and Suggestions Nov. 15, 1940, on Rept. 6350.

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

1. The National Gendarmeria is organizing and functioning as stated in your comments but as yet it has not been removed from under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of War. Apparently it has not been sufficiently organized and distributed to permit its transfer to the Department of Interior.

2. There is an underlying current beneath the surface. The National, State and Capital Gendarmeries and the police of the Federal Capital have a strong dislike for the Army, term the army officers as "Nazis" and say that if the army tries to overturn the Government the troops (army) will never get out of Campo de Mayo. I have been told that during the last revolution the police barricaded themselves in the police stations and refused to surrender to the army.

3. While only an opinion, it is believed that the army will keep the Gendarmeria under its control as long as is possible. Thus by having an active and ambitious army officer as chief they are able to maintain control and supervision even in outlying districts where no troops are stationed.

4. Colonel Kelso, Chief of the President's Military Household, has just been relieved of his command as Chief of Gendarmeria and is being replaced by Colonel Juan J. Palacios, former chief of the 3rd Division General Staff.

*M. A. Devine, Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Lt. Col., G.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Dec. 18th.

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From M. A. Argentina ..... Report No. 6458 ..... Date December 17, 1940.  
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6020

EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE  
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA.

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FEB 18 1941  
CHIEF OF STAFF  
MIL. INTEL. DIV.  
2001-202  
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WAR DEPARTMENT  
dmv

January 30, 1941.

6498.

RECEIVED G-2 W.D. FEB 7 1941

Subject: Comments and Suggestions, Jan. 9, 1941, National Gendarmerie.

To: A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, Washington, D.C.

1. The National Gendarmerie actually consists of 996 officers and men exactly as stated in this report. However, the law creating the Gendarmerie which was published in the Boletin Militar of August 29, 1938, provides a force of 192 officers of various ranks, 501 non-commissioned personnel, and 3,000 soldiers. Funds have never been appropriated for this total strength.
2. The Gendarmerie of the provinces and gobernaciones (states) has an estimated strength of 200 officers and 2,500 men. These would correspond to our state police.
3. The Federal Capital Gendarmerie (Buenos Aires) has an estimated strength of 35 officers and 500 men.
4. The Gendarmeries of the capitals of the provinces and gobernaciones (gendarmeries of the capital city, corresponding to our state capital) have an estimated strength of 313 officers and 2,631 men.
5. The grand total of all gendarmeries within the "epublic is estimated at 675 officers and 6,500 men.
6. I understand why these figures are confusing as in 1938 the authorized strength was reported as provided in the Act creating the National organization.

*M.A. Devine, Jr.*  
M.A. Devine, Jr.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

Copy retained in RA Sec.  
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Classification
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Enclosures 2001-200
Record Section File No.
Copy No. 6-1
For Record Section Only

# MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

## MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina

Subject Gendarme Unit to Southern Territories. Country Reported On I.G. No. 6010.

Source and Degree of Reliability: Official
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Summarization of Report When Required
Ref. Rept. 6350, I.G. 6010, Sept. 23, 1940.

The first Gendarme contingent to be sent to the southern territories, composed of five officers, fifteen non-commissioned officers and civilians, and 100 enlisted personnel, left the Federal Capital on the evening of February 14 by special train. They travelled to Ingeniero Jacobacci by rail and then for 500 kilometers to Colonia San Martin in the territory of Santa Cruz, where they are to be stationed, by their own transport.

This contingent is under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Wenceslao A. Aleu with Major Ernesto Pedernera as second in command. The contingent was inspected at the station by the Minister of War, General Juan N. Tonazzi, Minister of Interior Miguel J. Culaciati, and Colonel Juan José Palacios, chief of the gendarmerie.

Funds have not been made available for construction of quarters up to the present and so this company will be lodged in buildings placed at their disposal by the town of Colonia San Martin, which is located in Santa Cruz, the southernmost of the national territories which is bounded on the south and west by the Republic of Chile.

*M. A. Devine, Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Feb. 19th.

G-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6.  
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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6516 Date February 17, 1941.  
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Record Section File No.

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**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION**  
**WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**  
**MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina**

Subject Gendarmerie Organization at this date Country Reported On  
I. G. No. 6010

Source and Degree of Reliability: REC'D - G-2 JUL 3 1941

See comment.

Summarization of Report  
When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

The National Gendarmerie Field Force is now organized in 3 zones, a regiment for each. The three zones are North, Central and South.

At present there are groupments in the North Zone in the Gobernaciones of Chaco, Formosa and Misiones. It is planned to establish another in Los Andes. The present strength of the North Zone is 116 officers, 180 ncos and 880 men, distributed as follows: In Chaco, 24 officers, 60 ncos and 250 men located at Roque Saenz Peña, Villa Angela and Zapallar. It is planned to establish a troop ("escuadrón") at Charata. In Formosa, 30 officers, 60 ncos and 360 men located at Lomita, Clorinda and a roving troop covering the roads. In Misiones, 26 officers, 60 ncos and 270 men, located at Concepción and the Alta Paraná River.

In the Central Zone there is now a groupment or "Regiment" in the Gobernación de Neuquén of 16 officers, 25 ncos and 220 men located at Las Lajas and Chos Malal.

In the Southern Zone there is now a groupment or "Regiment" in the Gobernación de Chubut of 11 officers, 20 ncos and 110 men located at Colonia Gral. San Martín. It is planned to send another troop ("escuadrón") to Chubut.

The present total field strength is 107 officers, 225 ncos and 1,210 men.

The H.Q. of the Gendarmes is in Buenos Aires with a Director General, a Secretary General, Q.M., Legal Advisor and Staffs. There are storehouses, pharmacy, radio communications, guard, instruction groups and other installations in Buenos Aires and Campo de Mayo just outside the city.

The personnel is highly selective and are ex-soldiers and officers.

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6697 Date June 26, 1941  
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- 2 -

G-2 Report.

6010

The Director General can "hire and fire" without recourse to decree.

The organization is regiments, groupments, escuadrones (troops) and detachments. The escuadrones are made up of two (generally) one of Mgs. and the other of Carbines (Mauser 7.65). It is planned to arm the latter group with Thompson Sub-Machine (Tommy) Guns.

In the Headquarters here, one officer is charged with watching Totalitarian activities.

COMMENT:

This information is from the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 of the Argentine General Staff and from an officer of the Gendarmerie.

*John W. Lang*  
John W. Lang  
Colonel, Inf.  
Military Attaché

Enclosures: 1 map  
1 chart

All copies airmailed June 27, 1941.

From M.A. Argentina

Report No. 6697

June 26, 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

G-2 Report.

H.Q. & Staff  
Buenos Aires.

Zone North  
Regt. No.1  
80 off., 180 ncos.  
880 men.

Gendarmerie  
Nacional

Zone Central  
Regt. No. 2  
(Neuquén)  
16 off., 35 ncos.  
220 men

Zone South (Chubut)  
Regt. No. 3  
11 off., 20 ncos.  
110 men

1941  
OFFICE CHIEF OF STAFF  
MIL., INTEL. DIV.

JUL 8 1941  
WAR DEPARTMENT

Groupment Chaco  
24 off., 60 ncos.  
250 men.

Groupment Formosa  
30 off., 60 ncos.  
360 men.

Groupment Misiones  
25 off., 60 ncos.  
270 men

Another Groupment is  
scheduled for the  
Gobernación de  
Los Andes.

Escuadrón at Las Lajas

Escuadrón at Chos Malal

Escuadrón at Colonia Gral. San Martín

There is to be another Escuadrón in  
this Gobernación de Chubut.

60 10  
Escuadrón at Roque  
Saenz Peña (troop)

Escuadrón at Villa  
Angela

Detachment at Zapallar  
Another Escuadrón to be  
at Charata.

Escuadrón at Clorinda

Escuadrón at Lomita

Escuadrón de Camineros

Escuadrón at Concepción

Escuadrón on Alta Paraná

June 26, 1941

Total Field Force 107 officers  
225 ncos.  
1210 men.

CONFIDENTIAL.

G-2 Report.

AIR MAIL

RESTRICTED.

ARGENTINA - Combat.

SUBJECT: Organization;  
Cavalry.

RECEIVED G/2 W. G. JUL 2 1940

As far as can be learned the following is the cavalry organization of the Argentine Army:

1. Two Divisions.
2. The Division consists of a Division Headquarters and two Cavalry Brigades of two regiments each, a group of Horse Artillery and a Communications Squadron.
3. The 1st Division Headquarters consists of eight officers and it is believed that there are no divisional troops other than the artillery and communications in this Cavalry Division.
4. The 2nd Cavalry Division appears to have a slightly different Organization, although it is not known whether the V Brigade and the VII Brigade and a squadron of Sappers are merely attached or are separate units.
5. All Brigade Headquarters consist of the Commander and one staff officer, and it appears that there are no brigade troops.
6. Officer strength: 1st Division. 1st Brigade.  
Regiment of San Martin.  
1 lieutenant colonel )  
1 major )  
4 captains ) Type  
17 lieutenants )  
23 total )  
  
8th Regiment  
20 officers.  
  
2nd Brigade.  
2nd Regiment  
17 officers  
  
10th Regiment  
18 officers.  
  
Horse Artillery Group.  
1 lieutenant colonel  
1 major  
2 captains  
9 lieutenants.  
  
Communications Squadron.  
1 captain  
3 lieutenants.

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 6266.

June 20, 1940.

G-2 Report.

6,100.21.

2nd Division.

3rd Brigade.

9th Cavalry  
17 officers

11th Cavalry  
18 officers

4th Brigade

3rd Cavalry  
16 officers

6th Cavalry  
21 officers

3rd Group - Horse Artillery.  
13 officers

2nd Communications Squadron.  
3 officers

Squadron of Sappers.  
2 officers

5th Brigade.

1st Cavalry  
15 officers

4th Cavalry  
16 officers

7th Cavalry  
16 officers

4th Group - Horse Artillery.  
11 officers

VII Brigade.

5th Cavalry  
14 officers

12th Cavalry  
9 officers.

7. The Regiment of San Martin which is the President's guard is organized as follows, which I am told is the type organization:

4 sabre squadrons with a strength of 70 to 80 troopers;  
1 machine gun squadron of three sections of three guns each - strength approximately 70 troopers.  
1 communications section - strength unknown.

8. At an inspection of this regiment on June 19th by the Military Attachés of the American countries we were permitted to see a gymnastic ride,

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 6266.

June 20, 1940.



C-2 Report.

- 3 -

G-2 Report.

6,100.21.

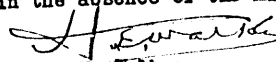
a jumping exhibition by eight officers and a remount training exhibition. It is the frank opinion of the Attachés that the Army is so deficient in training that the Argentine authorities do not desire to have it inspected except most casually.

9. No mechanical or motorized units are listed in any official or semi-official source.

Source: Personal observation.

(Information for this report was secured by the M/A before departure for Montevideo.)

For and in the absence of the Military Attaché.

  
H. E. Walker,  
Clerk in Charge.

Original & 5 copies airmailed June 21st.

From M/A Argentina.

Report No. 6266.

June 20, 1940.

1 Encl.  
3-3 2001-295  
...

CONFIDENTIAL

October 4, 1940.

6359.

Subject: Possible Change in Army High Command.

To: A. C. of S., G-2, War Department, Washington, D.C.

1. Colonel J. F. Suárez, Secretary-Adjutant to the Minister of War, visited my quarters last evening, and in the course of a conversation stated that the Ex-Minister of War, General Carlos Marquez, had been cleared by President Ortiz of any connection with the El Palomar land scandal and that he (Marquez) would certainly be appointed Inspector General of the Army and be raised to the rank of Division General. (Inspector General corresponds to our Chief of Staff.

Comments.

Colonel Suarez was Adjutant-Secretary to General Marquez when he was Minister of War, and has been continued in this position by General Tonazzi, so he should be in a position to know the inner workings of the War Ministry. I had heard some ten days ago (American source) that General Mohr, who is now en route to the United States on the invitation of our Chief of Staff, would be sent on an extended inspection trip which would include Japan when he had completed the inspection in the United States. I discounted this report due to the fact that General Mohr insisted upon sailing from New York on November 2nd, and that the usual niceties observed by nations would not permit such procedure.

If this change occurs, General Marquez will have direct command of the armed forces and will be in a position to dictate policies. To date, General Tonazzi has made no change in the personnel of the War Ministry or army policy.

M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Major, G. S.,  
Military Attaché.

CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum to G-2, War Department, Washington.

The following is a copy of a memorandum furnished by the Military Attaché to the American Ambassador, Buenos Aires.

October 3, 1940.

MEMORANDUM

Subject: ACTING PRESIDENT CASTILLO

A reliable source reports President Castillo recently stated in his home that he is well aware of his advanced years and that this is the last public service he will be able to offer his country. He feels certain that if continued in office until the expiration of the presidential term (1944) his next assignment will be in the Recoleta (fashionable burial grounds in Buenos Aires).

The President is under no illusion that he can be a popular and colorful chief executive such as Ortiz and knows that as long as Ortiz lives he, Castillo, will never be considered president of the Republic.

At best his political future is uncertain and indefinite so under present conditions he is obligated to carry on the policies of President Ortiz. However, he does have one determined policy, that is that Argentina shall have a decent, honest, and democratic government and this is the memory he wishes to leave with his people. For him there shall be no vacillation; and his official acts will be based on a resolute policy of pro-Argentina.

President Castillo is alleged to have stated that his Cabinet had been selected as the result of a studied estimate of existing conditions and with a due regard for the availability of Cabinet material. That before despatching the names to the Senate he had submitted the same to President Ortiz, ex-President Justo and various party leaders and, while they were not in complete agreement on each individual the general make-up had their approval.

The same source reports that in his opinion Dr. Roca (Foreign Affairs), Dr. Pinedo (Hacienda) are definitely pro-British and for all practical purposes can be considered pro-American. He is of the opinion that Dr. Culaciati (Interior), while not definitely pro-British like the two former can be considered to have strong leanings in that direction.

He (my informant) further stated that in his opinion the remaining members of the Cabinet were "yes men" and that he would have definite information concerning the attitude of General Tonazzi within the next ten days.

*M. A. D.*  
M. A. D.

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Enclosures

2001-208

Record Section File No.

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For Record Section Only

RECEIVED G/2 W. D. DEC 27 1940  
**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION**  
**WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

**MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina.**

Subject Changes in High Command. Country Reported On I. G. No. 6200.

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Personal Contacts: reliable.

Summarization of Report

When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

Orders have recently been promulgated relieving several key officers of command or staff duties, a more or less annual procedure as many details are for only one year - especially in the General Staff. (Officers may be redetailed). This annual shake-up has been deplored on many occasions by military writers in the local press. Under the law, high commands of troops can continue for three years. These changes are generally made in such time as will enable officers to shake-down before the new class of conscripts arrive about January 10th of each year.

Major General Francisco Reynolds, commanding the 2nd Army, has been definitely detached and demoted by his assignment as member of the Supreme Army and Navy Council. General Reynolds (reported by confidential Dispatch No. 6440, Nov. 29, 1940) was one of the Argentine officers photographed rendering the Nazi salute.

I have been advised by Colonel Carlos Kelso, head of the Military Household of the President, and former commander of the Gendarmerie, that this photograph is in the hands of the Government. Colonel Kelso stated that it was taken in September 1939 at the annual Nazi rally in Buenos Aires, and that the Government knew the names of all officers who had participated and that they were being carefully watched.

Brigadier General Rodolfo Marquez, the present Chief of Staff, relieves General Reynolds as commander of the 2nd Army. General Marquez has probably the least ability of any general officer on the active list. It is believed that both General Marquez and General L.A. Cassinelli, commanding the 1st Army, are pro-American.

Brigadier General Juan Pierrestegui, former Director of the Central Artillery School, succeeds General Marquez as Chief of Staff. He is an official with a pleasing personality, energetic and far above the general officer average of the Argentine Army. He is believed to be pro-American.

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6457. Date December 16, 1940.  
This line to appear on all succeeding pages

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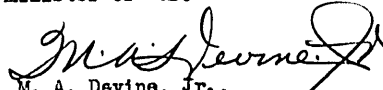
G-2 Report.

6200.

General Abel Miranda has been relieved of command of the 1st Division by Brigadier General Adolfo S. Espindola, formerly in command of the 3rd Military Region. This came as somewhat of a surprise as General Miranda was known to be a close friend of the Acting President, and was prominently mentioned for the War portfolio upon the recent relief of General Carlos D. Marquez. General Miranda recently received unfavorable publicity as one of the generals who would support a coup d'etat, which publicity seems to have been wholly unjustified.

As General Miranda was an outstanding officer his relief caused comment, particularly when he received no other office so automatically passed to the retired list until recalled. The G-2 of the War Department told me that General Miranda had had command of the 4th Division at Córdoba and the 1st Division at Buenos Aires, and that while he did not desire to relinquish command the War Office found it necessary to give others an opportunity to command. The 1st Division is the most important divisional command as its troops are the nearest group to the capital, and are, in general, selected men. There is more behind this particular shift than appears on the surface, however, the Minister of War, General Tonazzi, has advised the press that no politics is involved in any of the changes.

The headquarters and staffs of both the 1st and 2nd Armies are now located in Buenos Aires. They function directly under the Inspector General, and General Mohr informed the undersigned that this change was not significant as he had always wished to have the army commanders and staffs available at all times for conferences. The change, however, does keep the commanders and staffs out of close touch with their troops and under the close supervision of the Minister of War.

  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Lt.Col., G.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Dec. 18th.

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IN SERVICE JOURNALS

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Record Section File No.

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For Record Section Only

# MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

## MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina

Country Reported On

Subject Changes in High Command, January 1, 1941. I.G. No. 6200

Source and Degree of Reliability:

Official.

Summarization of Report

When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

Changes in the high command of the Argentine Army which went into effect January 1, 1941, because of the retirement of Inspector General Guillermo J. Mohr for age, are:

Major General L. A. Cassinelli succeeds General Mohr as inspector general;

Major General P. J. Rocco succeeds General Cassinelli as commander of the 1st Army;

General C. D. Marquez, former Minister of War, has been designated Quartermaster General, a post which has been vacant for some months.

Colonel J. C. Bassi, commandant of the Military Academy, has been designated as Military Attaché to the United States. He is one of the outstanding officers of the Argentine Army.

### COMMENTS.

Complete Who's Who will be forwarded.

*Max Levine Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Lt. Col., G.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Jan. 3rd.

G-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6,  
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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6472 Date January 2, 1941.  
This line to appear on all succeeding pages

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**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION**  
**WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**

**MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina**

Country Reported On

Subject Promotion Regulations Criticized I.G. No. 6000.

Brief Descriptive Title

Source and Degree of Reliability:

As stated.

Summarization of Report

When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

Taking the forced retirement of Major General Guillermo J. Mohr - inspector general of the Argentine Army - from active service in less than a month from the date of his return from the trip to the United States as guest of Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall as a text, the powerful La Prensa calls for a change in retirement procedure of officers in the higher grades.

La Prensa says: "The benefits of this visit of the Inspector General are limited to what written reports he makes to his superiors, but the details of organization which this officer observed during the time that the great North American republic is feverishly rearming, and the conclusions to be drawn by a military critic with wide experience in high command, if not wholly lost to the army at least cannot be used as fully as would be possible had this officer continued on active duty".

This is still another criticism by La Prensa's military commentator of constant changes in high commands in the army. This retirement of General Mohr and his replacement by another major general is likely to cause another change in the inspector generalship by the end of the present year. This will happen unless there are two vacancies in the grade of major general in that time; if there are not, then the two oldest major generals will be forced to retire - one of them the present incumbent - as General Mohr had to do recently.

The writer in Prensa calls on the army to put an end to this practice of promotion and retirement, and recalls that nine different officers have been chiefs of staff in the past ten years, and that five major generals have occupied the post of inspector general in that period.

*M. A. Devine, Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Colonel, G.S.C.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Feb. 12th.

G-2 Distribution: 4,

5,

6,

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From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6512 Date February 12, 1941.

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Enclosures 1-201
Record Section File No.
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**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION**  
**WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF**  
**MILITARY ATTACHÉ REPORT Argentina.**

Subject Attitude of Army Officials toward U.S. I.G. No. 6000

Source and Degree of Reliability: Personal Contacts.
---

Summarization of Report When Required
In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

**General L. A. Cassinelli.**

This officer holds the most important troop command, namely, Commanding General of the First Army, with headquarters in Buenos Aires, the Federal Capital. Due to his position, it may be of interest to the War Department to know of recent conversations the Military Attaché had with him.

General Cassinelli expressed the opinion that within the near future the United States will have the most formidable war machine in the world.

That the United States with its large professional army is not confronted with an officer problem such as has been the weakness of other Powers.

That with the mass production facilities at our disposal, huge quantities of war materials can be rapidly produced.

He agrees that the Argentines have no conception of the United States except that gained from European sources. He stated that Argentina is a poor country, that its money is cheap compared with the dollar and for this reason Argentines journeyed to Europe, not so much through choice as because of lower cost, and that if some solution to this problem could be found then the bulk of the tourists would gravitate toward the United States. He also expressed the hope that the United States could see its way clear to the purchase of more raw produce(meat) from the Argentines.

He was of the opinion that the invitation extended by our Chief of Staff was opportune and would serve to join the Americas into a closer union, and he hoped that in future we would invite other Argentine officers to visit our army.

G-2 Distribution: 4, ..... 5, ..... 6, .....  
 Copy No. 1, R/S; 2, L/C; 3, Section File

From M. A. Argentina Report No. 6358 Date October 3, 1940.  
 This line to appear on all succeeding pages

**CONFIDENTIAL**



L-2 Report.

6000

General Reynolds.

The Commanding General of the Second Army informed me that the invitation extended to the Inspector General was a fine gesture of friendship, and that he regretted that Argentina had not seen fit to send him too. (He speaks English).

He stated, as did General Casinelli, that the United States would be the most formidable military power in the world within a short period of time.

He invited me to visit his army at Mendoza during January.

General Miranda.

This officer commands the First Division and the District of Buenos Aires. He is an intimate friend of Acting President Castillo, was prominently mentioned for the portfolio of the War Ministry, and is known to be called in for consultations with the President frequently.

General Miranda told me that the Minister of War, General Tonazzi, is known to him practically only by name. That General Tonazzi was Military Attaché in Italy when he was serving as an observer with Italian Alpine troops. I had a feeling that General Miranda is not too cordial toward General Tonazzi. General Miranda has frequently expressed his highest regard and admiration for the American people and feels that we will have a most "formidable army" in a short time.

General Miranda hopes that it will be possible to have more Argentine officers visit the United States.

I feel closer to General Miranda than to any other Argentine officer and believe that his sentiments are sincere.

Colonel Trotz.

Commands the Presidential Guard, is one hundred per cent with us, and recently used his influence to have the army accept the invitation of the National Horseshow Committee, but told me that he was blocked by General Gras, the Chief of Cavalry.

- - - - -

There are others such as Colonel Pastor, G-2 of the First Division, Major Loza, Acting G-2 of the War Ministry, and Major Nogués, secretary to the Inspector General, who have frequently expressed cordial sentiments toward the United States.

On the other hand we have the retired group, strong politicians such as Generals Pertiné, Pistarini and Pita; General Rocco, Chief of Ordnance; General Gras, Chief of Cavalry; Colonel Sanguinetti, War Department General Staff; General Ramirez, Commandant of the Staff School, and a multitude of others who bend in the other direction.

COMMENTS.

We are making progress and the general picture is much brighter than it was last April. It is interesting to note that in practically all conversations the term "formidable" is used, which might lead us to believe that our army has been the subject of conversation in military circles.

*M. A. Devine, Jr.*  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Major, G. S.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Oct. 4th.

From M.A. Argentina. Report No. 6358.

October 3, 1940.

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Enclosures

2001-206

Record Section File No.

Copy No. 6-1

For Record Section Only

RECEIVED 9/2 A. D. DEC 18 1940

# MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

## WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

### MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT Argentina.

Subject General Mohr's Reaction to U. S. Visit. Country Reported On I. G. No. 5900

Source and Degree of Reliability:

As stated.

2001-206

2001-206

#### Summarization of Report

When Required

Ref: Comments and Suggestions Nov. 8th on Rept. No. 6358, I. G. 6000 and par. 10 Confidential Dispatch No. 6450 this office, Dec. 6, 1940.

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

On Saturday, December 7th, General Mohr gave a luncheon in honor of the Military Attaché at the Circulo Militar which was attended by the ranking generals of the Argentine Army, Secretary of the Minister of War, and other officers of the General Staff.

General Mohr in discussing his recent visit to the United States as guest of the Chief of Staff of the Army said that every possible courtesy had been extended to him and to Colonel Lanus by the United States Government.

For the first twenty-four hours after his arrival in the country he had been mystified, but at the end of forty-eight hours he felt as much at home in the United States as he did in Argentina. He stated that we could imagine how difficult it must have been for him at first, not knowing the language, but he was placed so much at his ease by the kind and sympathetic reception that the language made no difference.

He commented upon the courtesy and efficiency of employees of the steamship lines, hotels and railroads and stated that more courtesies were extended to the Argentines than the other groups and that he felt that they had been the favored delegation.

General Mohr particularly mentioned his reception by President Roosevelt. It was apparent that he had not anticipated an interview with the President, so was doubly honored.

He further stressed the fact that the Secretary of War had received the delegation and how pleased they had been by the cordial manner in which Mr. Sumner Wells had conducted their reception. He went at great length to explain to the officers present all the physical characteristics of Mr. Wells, and ended with the observation that he was a formidable man, and had been President Roosevelt's representative in Germany and Italy.

G-2 Distribution: 4, 5, 6.  
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From M. A. Argentina. Report No. 6451 Date December 10, 1940.

This line to appear on all succeeding pages

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

G-2 Report.

5900.

He gave a complete, word by word description of General Marshall; how kindly he had been; then puffed out his chest to describe the General's appearance, and made quite a point that the General was slender and looked very young for such a position. He told the officers that he could tell General Marshall was brilliant and energetic by looking at his face.

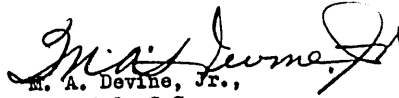
He then described General Brees in detail, saying that he was the commander of the Third Army, was a brilliant, energetic, sympathetic man who gave the impression of great knowledge and force. He, too, was a formidable person, but not portly.

As to the United States Army, General Mohr stated that it was "brilliant from the generals' rank to the private soldier". It was finely equipped and showed the results of excellent training.

At the close of his conversation, General Mohr said that any misunderstanding between the United States and Argentina was due to a lack of knowledge of the sister republic and that he hoped that frequent visits would be made between the officers of both countries. He stated that it was impossible for the Argentines to visit the United States because of the fact that the peso was only 1/4 of the U. S. dollar, and as they were paid in pesos the voyage was beyond their means. He felt that the Argentines really wanted to visit the United States but were prevented by the unfavorable exchange.

General Mohr stated that his government would invite our officers to visit Argentina, and expressed the hope that it would be possible for General Brees to come, as he understood that he, General Brees, would be retired in 1941. I gathered from this remark that he realized General Marshall would not be able to leave Washington at this time, or that it was too much to expect.

Throughout, General Mohr spoke with deep emotion and sincerity, and said that we two should constitute a committee of two to bring the United States and Argentina into a closer relationship.

  
M. A. Devine, Jr.,  
Lt.Col., G.S.,  
Military Attaché.

All copies airmailed Dec.11th.

Digest Report

Classification

Enclosures

2001-209

Record Section File No.

Copy No. 6-1

For Record Section Only

# MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF

## MILITARY ATTACHE REPORT BRAZIL

Subject Naziism in the Argentine Army. Country Reported On BRAZIL  
I. G. No. 3020

Source and Degree of Reliability: Confidential; The Military Attaché, S/IF.  
General Goes Monteiro.

### Summarization of Report

When Required

In Comments on Current Events Enter Item Headings Here

1. The Chief of Staff of the Brazilian Army has sent me the following confidential report on the Argentine Army, prepared by the 2nd Section of the General Staff:-

"Pro-Nazi influence in the Army: The great majority of the officers in the Argentine Army is openly pro-German. At the schools, regimental casinos or in the Military Circle they often speak of the 'brilliant achievements of the German army, navy and air forces, and of its overpowering superiority over the allied forces.'

Furthermore, the Nazi victory is 'considered a vital necessity to Argentina, to allow that nation to shake off the Anglo-American oppression and enable it to secure its 'desideratum' with regard to South-American politics.

According to statements openly made in the Argentine military circles, in the final post-war adjustments they expect great assistance, morally and materially, from Germany to "definitely fix their hegemony in South America". It is stated that: "we shall then be able to achieve our old ideals which have so far been postponed in silence, because it was not opportune to reveal them".

On one occasion, at a drill performed for pupils of the Arms School it was mentioned in a group of Argentine officers "the possibility of dismembering the Southern Brazilian States, by the mass uprising of Nazi elements resident there and who would be supported by Germany."

G-2 Distribution: 4, ..... 5, ..... 6, .....  
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From M. A. BRAZIL Report No. 2691 Date April 23, 1941.  
This line to appear on all succeeding pages

Confidential; The Military Attaché, Braz

Classification

- 2 -

Subject: Naziism in the Argentine Army.

3020.

2. General Goes does not wish to be quoted on this, but does wish the matter brought to General Marshall's attention. He states that he predicted this situation to General Marshall in 1938.

3. The Military Attaché interviewed Colonel Devine, who stopped today in Rio de Janeiro enroute to the United States. Col. Devine confirms the fact that the Argentine Army's high command is distinctly pro-Nazi.

4. The Military Attaché is of the opinion that for the Brazilian high command to know that her traditional South American rival, Argentina, is pro-Nazi, is distinctly helpful to the U.S. and establishes an additional community of interest between Brazil and ourselves. This will operate to offset the effect that was to be expected here from recent Nazi victories and British defeats.

*Edwin L. Sibert*  
EDWIN L. SIBERT  
Colonel, G.S.C.  
Military Attaché.

By air mail April 24, 1941.

M/A BRAZIL

No. 2691

April 23, 1941.